



# Applications

## Formal Diversion Programs

## Emergency Assistance

### Rhode Island

#### Applications

---

**Filing and Processing Applications**  
**Pre-Application Requirements**  
**Pending Application Requirements**  
**Personal Responsibility Contracts**  
**Employability Plans**

**Filing and Processing Applications**

All persons have a right to file an application for cash assistance.

Right provided for in statute

The same application for cash assistance is used throughout the state.

The statewide application is a joint application for:

Food Stamps

Medicaid

State medical assistance

"G-med," a voucher program for medical care, which may include short-term hardship money

State policy sets standards of timeliness for processing applications:

Applications must be acted upon within 30 days.

The agency is required to issue a written decision on applications.

**Pre-Application Requirements**

The state does not impose requirements that must be met before a family can submit an application for cash assistance.

**Pending Application Requirements**

The state does not impose requirements (other than verification of information concerning eligibility) that a family must meet in order for its cash assistance application to be processed and approved.

**Personal  
Responsibility  
Contracts**

Applicants and recipients are not required to sign a personal responsibility contract.

**Employability Plans**

Applicants must sign an employability plan, i.e. a plan that covers only work requirements for the individual, after eligibility is determined.

An individual develops an employability plan with:

- Another worker at the TANF office
- Contract workers gather information, do testing, and develop activity options; state FIP social worker must always approve the employment plan

The following people must sign an employability plan:

- Head of household
- Both parents in "two-parent" families
- Parents who are requesting assistance

The following applicants and recipients are exempt from developing and/or signing an employability plan:

- Individual exempt from work requirements
- Individual with a child under age 12 months
- Disabled caretaker
- Non-parent caretaker

Employability plans include a state or county agreement to provide services, and the services are listed.

There is no sanction for refusal to develop or sign an employability plan.

## Formal Diversion Programs

---

The state does not operate a formal cash diversion program.

## Emergency Assistance

---

The state provides emergency assistance to families that are receiving TANF cash assistance as follows:

- Eviction prevention
- Short-term rental assistance
- Emergency housing assistance
- Moving expenses for families forced to move due to fire/natural disaster; certain emergency transportation needs; shelter, clothing or essential household equipment/furnishings needed due to catastrophe

The state provides emergency assistance to families that are eligible for but not receiving TANF cash assistance as follows:

- Eviction prevention
- Short-term rental assistance
- Emergency housing assistance
- Moving expenses for families forced to move due to fire/natural disaster; certain emergency transportation needs; shelter, clothing or essential household equipment/furnishings needed due to catastrophe

The state provides emergency assistance to families that are not eligible for TANF cash assistance as follows:

- Emergency assistance needs

*Note: Information on exemptions from work requirements and sanctions for noncompliance with work requirements will be available in the Work and Sanction Provisions sections later this year.*