



# Rhode Island Department of Human Services

## Housing Services

### What is Housing Services?

The Rhode Island Department of Human Services (DHS) provides a wide range of health and human services to assist individuals and families stabilize their household. Access to affordable housing is a key determinant of health and wellbeing, affecting outcomes for families and individuals. DHS works collaboratively with other state agencies to help address determinants such as housing, and thus provides housing services as part of a broader goal of helping individuals become self-sufficient in their housing needs. Housing services from DHS are supplementary and are usually offered to households with great demonstrated need.

### Do I qualify for housing services?

You may qualify for housing services if you are currently receiving Rhode Island Works benefits or Supplemental Security Income. **RI Works customers** may be eligible for additional cash assistance to offset moving expenses. **SSI recipients** may also be eligible for coverage of moving expenses, within program cost guidelines, which are paid directly to a contracted mover. Housing services are limited to in-state moves.

### What does housing services provide?

Besides potentially being reimbursed for a portion of moving expenses and other related expenses, customers may find value in receiving assistance with:

- Finding adequate housing
- Coordinating relocations
- And other supports

### How can I get housing services?

Customers interested in housing services from DHS can ask about the service when speaking with a DHS staff member either in-person or by phone at 1-855-697-4347.

### Anything else I should know?

In the event of a 'forced to move' situation, such as but not limited to fires, uninhabitable housing, domestic violence or eviction, DHS will request additional information to determine benefit eligibility. In some cases, scenarios may fall under catastrophic assistance and beneficiaries may be entitled to receiving limited reimbursements for food and transportation (up to \$15 per day) and clothing (\$200 if clothing was destroyed and to meet immediate clothing need). Whenever possible, community resources should be explored and utilized.

**Eligible customers who have immediate housing needs should report it to DHS immediately. Processing times for requests may vary if information provided does not match records DHS has for the customer case.**

#### Have More Questions?

Visit our website: [www.dhs.ri.gov](http://www.dhs.ri.gov)

Call: 1-855-MY-RIDHS (1-855-697-4347) Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, except holidays, from 8:30AM-3:00PM

Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) Customer Service: 1-888-979-9939

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