RI Department of Human Services

Responses to CEC November 2026 Follow-Up Questions

Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)

Please provide a breakdown of the SFY2027 projected caseload impact of the January 1, 2027, CCAP policy changes.

Answer: In addition to anticipated baseline caseload growth, the SFY2027 projection incorporates the impact of policy changes effective January 1, 2027, expanding the CCAP initial eligibility income limit to 285% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and the transitional eligibility limit to 325% FPL. For SFY2027, an estimated 584 newly eligible children are projected to enter the caseload by June 30, 2027, at a cost of $1,184,214. An additional $92,589 is projected for 30 children who will remain eligible under the expanded transitional eligibility limit. In SFY2028, an additional 390 children are projected to become eligible, with 59 children remaining on CCAP under the transitional eligibility limit, at a total estimated cost of $1,807,196. The higher SFY2028 cost reflects the full-year impact of the policy changes, compared with the six-month implementation period in SFY2027.

General Public Assistance (GPA) Burial

Please provide additional analysis on average cost per case over recent years.

Answer: The below table summarizes agency records on GPA Burial benefits administered from July 2019 through September 2027, by date of batch payment. For each year the average expenditure per case exceeds the basic funeral allowance of $900 established by R.I. Gen. Laws § 40-6-3.10 reflecting additional burial or cremation activities governed by 218-RICR-20-00-3.4.2(F). The statute, via section (a), gives the Director of the Department of Human Services the authority to set the maximum amount in the regulations. This permits the Director to increase costs as required or needed, to ensure that funeral homes and cemeteries continue to accept GPA burials, albeit at a substantially lower rate than the average cost of a funeral and burial. Conferees also asked about whether there were any new processes. Beginning in fall 2026, the Catholic cemeteries require topical embalming and body bags before a burial is permitted.

In the table, the Total Dollars Spent has not been reconciled to RIFANS/Workday financial records so may not reflect adjustments or accrual entries. Number of Cases reflects unique individuals receiving one or more of funeral, burial or cremation services in a processing batch and excludes other GPA program participation such as GPA Bridge.

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State Fiscal Year	Total Dollars Spent	Number of Cases	Average Dollars / Case
2020	$ 698,606	672	$ 1,040
2021	$ 658,016	619	$ 1,063
2022	$ 622,680	591	$ 1,054
2023	$ 590,019	566	$ 1,042
2024	$ 647,056	603	$ 1,073
2025	$ 606,387	575	$ 1,055
2026	$ 640,213	599	$ 1,069
2027*	$ 125,649	116	$ 1,083
Total	$ 4,588,628	4,341	$ 1,057

*SFY 2027 data only reflects July - September 2026, all other years are 12-month periods.