



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals
BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE SERVICES
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Process for Accessing State Funded Recovery Housing

State funded financial support for recovery housing can **only** be accessed by calling the **RI Hope & Recovery Line at (401) 942- STOP (7867)**.

The RI Hope & Recovery Line is commonly referred to as 942STOP.

Recovery housing is **only** for individuals with a history of substance use disorder - it is **recovery** housing, not simply housing. Unhoused adults without substance use histories are not eligible for recovery housing.

Joining the Recovery Housing Waitlist

- Call the RI Hope & Recovery Line at (401) 942-7867 **between 7am and 7pm**.
- Speak to a screener who will ask questions to determine if you are eligible for financial support for recovery housing. Eligibility for financial support is described on pages 3 and 4 of this document.
 - You do **not** need 30 days substance free to join the waitlist, however, your recovery must be your priority.
 - You **do** need 30 days substance free before you can move into a recovery house. That time can be passed while you are on the waitlist, so please do not wait to call 942-STOP once you know you would like to move into recovery housing.
- If you are found eligible for financial support for recovery housing, you will be **placed on the waitlist**.
- To maintain your spot on the waitlist you should call 942-STOP **weekly** to confirm that you are still interested in being placed.
- Things to consider:
 - There is almost always a waiting period between being placed on the waitlist and moving into a recovery house. Same day placements are unheard of, in fact, same week placements are extremely rare.
 - Being unvaccinated for COVID-19 can significantly increase your wait time.
 - In March 2023, the average wait between waitlist placement and housing placement was 22 days.
 - Calling individual houses will not get you placed faster as recovery housing staff communicate with 942-STOP screeners daily.
 - Houses are contractually obligated to only take state funded clients who have been referred to them by 942-STOP. If you bypass the waitlist, you will not be eligible for State funding and there may be negative consequences for the house.

Moving Into a Recovery House

Once you are ready to move into a recovery house and your name reaches the top of the waitlist, 942-STOP will call you when a bed is available for you. They will tell you the city/town that the house is in, the agency that operates that house, and if there are multiple beds available. They will provide this information for each bed available. If you would like to be placed in the available bed, 942-STOP will give you contact information for that house and instruct you to call them. 942-STOP will also call the house they recommended to you to inform them that you will be contacting them soon.

When you call the contact provided, that person will ask questions to determine if you are the right fit for their house. After your conversation, the house will call 942-STOP to either accept you as a resident or decline, and 942-STOP will call you to inform you of the decision. If you have been accepted, 942-STOP will tell you where and when you need to show up and what items you need to bring with you.

Just like the houses have the choice to accept a resident or not, you have a choice to accept or decline placement in a house. You do not have to accept placement in a house that is not the right fit for you.

State Funded Financial Support for Recovery Housing

There are two different grants available to residents: the 1-Year Grant and the 6-Month Booster Grant. The 1-Year Grant is the first grant that all state funded residents will receive; this grant expires 365 days after you move into recovery housing.

The 6-Month Booster Grant becomes available when a resident's 1-Year Grant has been expired for at least three months.

1-Year Grant

For this grant, eligibility will be reassessed every 90 days for up to 365 days. The house manager or operator of the recovery house does this reassessment. Reimbursement will be at \$25/day for NARR Level II recovery housing on a tiered system:

- Days 1 - 90: State pays 100% (\$25 per day) , Resident pays \$0
- Days 91 – 180: State pays 80% (\$20 per day), Resident pays 20% (\$5 per day)
- Days 181 – 365: State pays 60% (\$15 per day), Resident pays 40% (\$10 per day)

Eligibility Criteria for 1-Year Grant

- Citizen of the U.S. or in the country lawfully
- Resident of RI for at least six months
- 18 years of age or older
- Income not to exceed 200% above federal poverty guideline (see page 4)
- Willingness to participate
- Not in need of detoxification from any recent substance or alcohol use.

- Does not have an arson charge on their record
- Other criteria as determined by individual housing providers

6-Month Booster Grant

This booster grant is meant for individuals who have experienced a reoccurrence or other event that destabilized their recovery after leaving recovery housing and need to return to a safe housing environment. For the 6-month booster grant, eligibility will be reassessed every 60 days for up to 180 days. Reimbursement will be at \$25/day for NARR Level II recovery housing on a tiered system:

Days 1- 60: State pays 100% (\$25 per day), Resident pays \$0

Days 61 – 180: State pays 60% (\$15 per day) and resident pays 40% (\$10 per day)

Eligibility Criteria for 6-Month Booster Grant

- Citizen of U.S. or in the country lawfully
- Resident of RI for at least six months
- 18 years of age or older
- Income not to exceed 200% above federal poverty guideline (see page 4)
- Willingness to participate
- Not in need of detoxification from any recent substance or alcohol use.
- It has been at least three months since they exhausted their 1-year grant
- Does not have an arson charge on their record
- Other criteria as determined by individual housing providers

2023 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia

Persons in Family/Household	200% of Poverty Guideline Annually	200% of Poverty Guideline Monthly
1	\$29,160	\$2,430
2	\$39,440	\$3,287
3	\$49,720	\$4,143
4	\$60,000	\$5,000
5	\$70,280	\$5,957
6	\$80,560	\$6,713
7	\$90,840	\$7,570
8	\$101,120	\$8,427
Each Additional Person	\$10,280	\$856

If you have questions...

For questions about the 942STOP waitlist and placement process, contact Dee Dee Williams by calling (401) 942-7867 and asking for her by name.

For questions about recovery housing certification or complaints about recovery housing, see information on page 5.

If you have questions about recovery housing for the State, contact Delia Aguilar at Delia.Aguilar@bhddh.ri.gov

Filing a Complaint about Recovery Housing

RI Communities for Addiction Recovery Efforts, commonly referred to as RICARES, handles all recovery housing complaints. The complaint process is a vital part of maintaining safe recovery housing in Rhode Island and focuses on addressing violations of existing housing certification requirements. In RI, recovery housing paid for by State funding must meet National Alliance of Recovery Residence, or NARR, standards. NARR Standards can be found [here](#).

Filing a complaint, also known as a grievance, is a way to resolve an interpersonal conflict that a resident believes may negatively affect their recovery; the complaint process also serves to resolve conflict between residents and the house manager, operator, or organization.

The Complaint or Grievance Process is a tool for residents living in recovery housing to be able to advocate for themselves.

The complaint process shall not be used as a threat to keep recovery residents, managers, and operators in “compliance” with the house rules. The complaint process shall protect recovery house residents from violations of their human rights to live in safe and secure housing as certified by the State of Rhode Island.

The RICARES Grievance Process includes a wide range of tools to respond to concerns. This includes referring residents to another agency, face to face mediation, training for operators, quality improvement plans with timetables, information gathering and problem-solving proposals, and voluntary relocation of a resident to another certified house.

There are two ways to file a complaint: in writing, or by calling RICARES staff at (401) 475-2960. To file a complaint in writing, click [here](#), or follow the below instructions:

- Go to ricares.org.
- There are multiple options at the top right of the webpage. Hover over the “Recovery Housing” option at the top of the webpage for a menu.
- Click “File a Complaint” on the menu and it will bring you to a Recovery House Complaints page.

- On the right side of the “File a Complaint” page, there is a statement “to File a Grievance, open our Grievance Form.” Click this option and it will bring you to the complaint form.
- Fill out and submit complaint form.

Expectations of Residents in State Funded Recovery Housing

Recovery housing is **only** for individuals with a history of substance use disorder – it is **recovery** housing, not simply housing. Unhoused adults without substance use histories are not eligible for recovery housing.

Individuals are a good fit for this program if they meet eligibility requirements *and* their top priority is their recovery. People who live in recovery housing are living together in a home-like environment and having people living in a recovery house who are not interested in sobriety and recovery living can be incredibly destabilizing and can destroy the motivation for everyone else who are interested in sobriety and recovery.

There are house rules and policies set by individual houses which residents must follow. We will not cover those here, as they differ between houses and are covered in each house’s manual, which is provided to residents when they move in. We will cover expectations that apply to all residents in all houses.

Residents are expected to show their commitment to their recovery in a few ways:

- Work with house manager to develop a wellness and recovery plan within one week of moving in. This plan should include:
 - Time bound goals for enhancing personal wellness and increasing recovery capital (the resources available to you to find and maintain your recovery).
 - An exit plan for housing once state funding ends.
- Consistently work towards achieving the goals set in your wellness and recovery plan.
- Work with the house manager to update your wellness and recovery plan once a month to reflect the progress you’ve made.
- Attend **four** recovery meetings of your choice each week.
 - YOU dictate your recovery path, not the house. Houses cannot mandate a specific path (such as AA, for example).

