

Common Myths About RItE Care

You must be on welfare to get RItE Care.

You do not have to be on welfare to apply. Eligibility is based on family size and family income. RItE Care paid for by the state and federal governments so that low-income children and families have access to quality health care.

If parents and their children are not citizens, they cannot get RItE Care.

Parents and their children do not have to be citizens to get RItE Care. Children up to age 19 are eligible if the family meets the income guidelines, are residents of Rhode Island and apply before 12/31/06. Pregnant women are eligible for RItE Care regardless of their immigration status.

If I or someone in my household is working, we can't get RItE Care.

Not true. Most families on RItE Care are working families with children who cannot afford health insurance at work or have jobs that do not offer health insurance.

If I own my own home I won't be able to get RItE Care.

The value of your home or your car is not counted when calculating your eligibility for RItE Care. Anyone with \$10,000 or more in liquid resources, such as cash in the bank, is not eligible.

To apply for RItE Care, I have to go to the DHS office for a face-to-face interview.

The RItE care application is a mail-in application. You can call the RItE Care Information Line at 462-5300, to ask for an application. Once you complete it, mail it to your local DHS office. The address for the local DHS office will be in the instruction booklet.

You may also go to a Community Health Center or hospital for help in filling out the application. A Family Resource Counselor will be able to help you with enrolling in RItE Care. Call the RItE Care Information Line at 462-5300 for a list of Family Resource Counselors in your area.

Once my family is on RItE Care I do not have to reapply again.

Usually, you must reapply for your RItE Care coverage every twelve months. If you do not reapply, you will lose your health insurance coverage and your medical bills will not be paid for by RItE Care. DHS will send you renewal forms in the mail when it is time to renew your RItE Care.

If I already have insurance at work I cannot get RItE Care.

If you have health insurance at work, and are eligible for RItE Care, you may be eligible for RItE Share. In RItE Share, DHS pays for the family's portion of health insurance premiums and pays for other services such as co-pays for doctor appointments