



Department of Health

Three Capitol Hill  
Providence, RI 02908-5097

TTY: 711  
[www.health.ri.gov](http://www.health.ri.gov)

## **RI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING PROGRAM AGE ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES 2024**

Rhode Island residents who meet age, income, and health insurance requirements are eligible for free breast and cervical cancer screening services through the Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program.

### **Services available for individuals by age group:**

- **Age 21-29**
  - Cervical cancer screening (Pap test alone every 3 years).
  - Breast cancer screening (if deemed “high-risk” by a provider).
  - Diagnostic services and follow-up, if an abnormality is found in a screening test.
- **Age 30-39**
  - Cervical cancer screening (Pap test alone every 3 years, **OR** high-risk HPV test alone every 5 years, **OR** Pap test and high-risk HPV test together every 5 years).
  - Breast cancer screening (if deemed “high-risk” by a provider).
  - Diagnostic services and follow-up, if an abnormality is found in a screening test.
- **Age 40-64:**
  - Cervical cancer screening (Pap test alone every 3 years, **OR** high-risk HPV test alone every 5 years, **OR** Pap test and high-risk HPV test together every 5 years).
  - Breast cancer screening (mammogram and clinical breast exam every year).
  - Diagnostic services and follow-up, if an abnormality is found in a screening test.
- **Age 65+:**
  - Not eligible for program services. **Exception:** Individuals without Medicare Part B and undocumented individuals are eligible for all program services.
- **Any Age Individual:**
  - People with symptoms suspicious for breast cancer, **OR** an abnormal finding on a clinical breast exam, are eligible for breast services including diagnostic follow-up.



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- **Individuals at high-risk for breast cancer:** People with at least one of the risk factors listed below may be eligible for screening with both an annual mammogram and an annual MRI
  - Personal history of BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutations
  - First-degree relative (parent, brother, sister or child) with a BRCA1 or BRCA2 gene mutation but not having had genetic testing themselves
  - First-degree relative with premenopausal breast cancer
  - Lifetime risk of breast cancer of 20% according to risk assessment tools based on family history (e.g. Tyrer-Cuzick, Claus, BRCAPRO, BOADICEA)
  - Radiation therapy to the chest between ages of 10-30

**Other Eligibility Criteria:**

1. Income (within 250% of poverty - see BCCSP Family Size and Eligibility Income levels)
2. Uninsured or underinsured (health insurance does not provide annual screening for breast and cervical cancer)
3. Must be a Rhode Island resident.

**QUESTIONS: Call the Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program at 222-4324.**



**State of Rhode Island**