

# THE HOUSING HUB

## PROVIDING PERTINENT INFORMATION AND REMINDERS ABOUT YOUR HOUSING NECESSITIES

### LOOKING TO RELOCATE? WHAT IS PORTABILITY?

“Portability” in the Section 8 (\$8) program refers to the process through which your family can transfer or “port” your rental subsidy when you move to a location outside the jurisdiction (city/town) of the public housing agency (PHA) that first gave you the voucher when you were selected for the program (the initial PHA).



### THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PORTING

1. Voucher unit size qualification may change.
2. The rental rates may be different for each PHA.
3. You should manage the move so that you have enough time to arrive at the receiving PHA before the initial PHA voucher expires; otherwise, you may lose your assistance.
4. When you select a unit, the owner of the unit completes the Request for Tenancy Approval (RTA) to provide the PHA with information about the unit. The information is used to determine if the unit is eligible for rental assistance. The RTA is two pages and the landlord and client (you) MUST sign the document.
5. Submit the RTA to your housing authority and follow-up often until move in day.

A Request for Tenancy Approval (RTA) form. The form is titled "Request for Tenancy Approval" and "Request for Tenancy Approval (RTA)". It contains various sections for providing information about the unit, including "Unit Information", "Unit Description", "Unit Features", and "Unit Amenities". The form is designed to be filled out by the landlord and signed by both the landlord and the tenant.

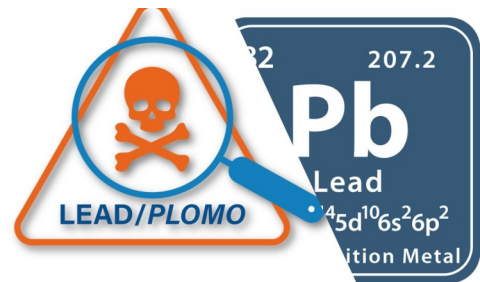
SPRING 2026

# RHODE ISLAND LEAD LAW

Most homes in Rhode Island were built before 1978 and are very likely to have lead-based paint. Lead paint and paint dust can harm young children's health (brain and nervous system). There are steps landlords are required to take to protect tenants from lead.

Tenants also play a crucial role in minimizing lead exposure risks by maintaining the cleanliness of their living spaces, particularly from lead present in paint, dust, and soil.

## A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO WHAT LANDLORDS ARE REQUIRED TO DO:



### 1. GET A LEAD INSPECTION

Hire a licensed inspector to assess for lead hazards and obtain the proper certificate.

### 2. INSPECT YOUR PROPERTY REGULARLY

Every **two years** — or **between tenants**

### 3. FIX PROBLEMS PROMPTLY

Contact your insurance provider and inquire about lead insurance.

### 4. PROVE YOUR PROPERTY IS LEAD-SAFE

Have your certificate readily available





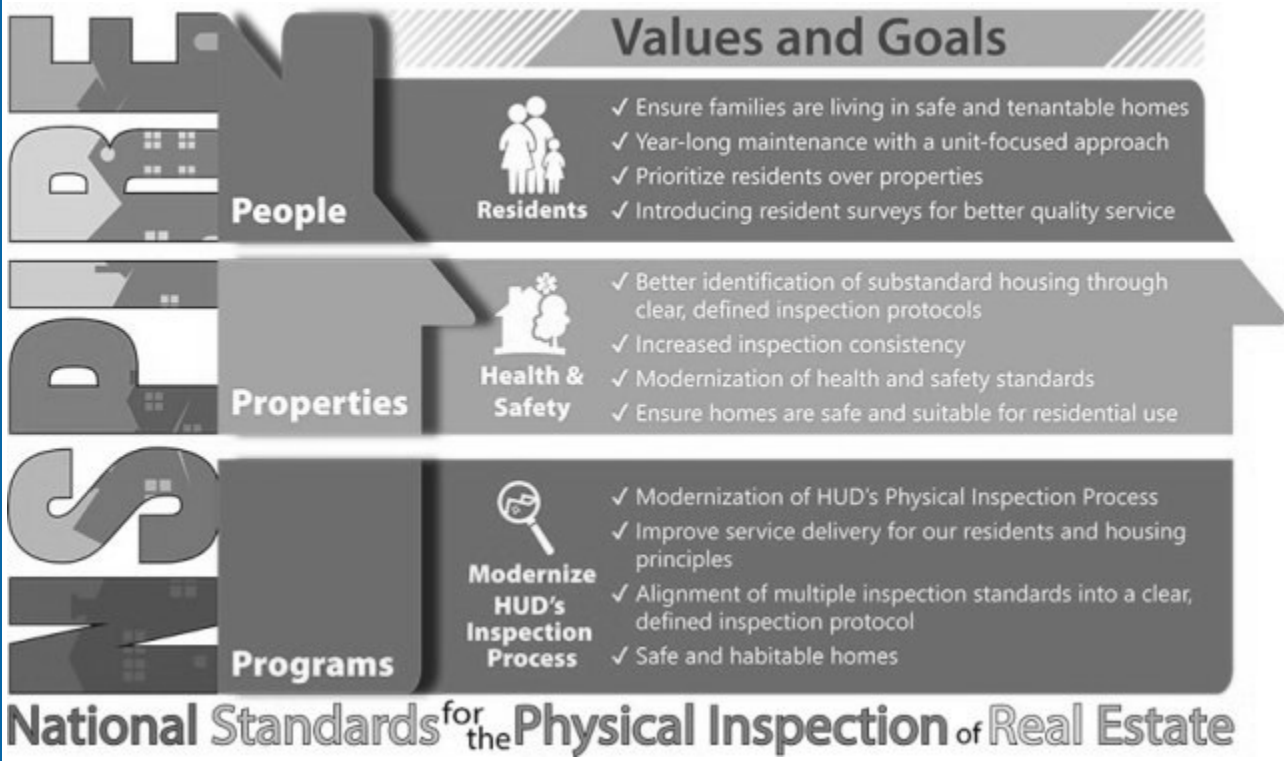
# INSPIRE

INSPIRE (National Standards for the Physical Inspection of Real Estate) is a modernized inspection protocol designed to ensure safe, habitable housing for residents. It replaces the older standard Housing Quality Standards (HQS) with a streamlined, evidence-based approach focusing on health, safety, and functionality across 3 main areas:

## UNIT

## INSIDE

## OUTSIDE



# FOR THE RECORD

## THERE ARE KEY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN A TERMINATION OF TENANCY AND AN EVICTION

| FEATURE          | TERMINATION OF TENANCY                                | EVICTION                                    |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| ORIGIN           | Mutual agreement or notice from landlord/tenant       | Court-ordered legal action                  |
| TYPICAL REASON   | Lease expiration or specific cause with 30-day notice | Lease violation or non-payment              |
| IMPACT ON RECORD | None                                                  | Significant damage to credit/rental history |
| FORCIBLE REMOVAL | No                                                    | Yes<br>(by law enforcement/constable)       |

Termination of tenancy is the legal end of a rental agreement (voluntary or by notice), whereas eviction is a court-ordered, forced removal of a tenant for lease violations. Termination is often a first step, while eviction is the final legal action; a terminated tenant can move out voluntarily, but an evicted tenant is removed by law enforcement.

