



Workforce Solutions

North Carolina Department of Commerce
Division of Workforce Solutions

DWS Policy Statement Number: PS 05-2016

Date: March 31, 2016

Subject: 2016 Lower Living Standard Income Level Revision and to rescind DWS Policy Statement Number 10-2015

From:

William H. Collins, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for Workforce

Purpose: To transmit the income chart identifying the higher of the “Federal Poverty Level Income Guidelines” and the “70% Lower Living Standard Income Level Guidelines” and rescind DWS Policy Statement Number 10-2015.

Background: The U.S. Department of Labor published the Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) in the Federal Register on March 25, 2016.

The LLSIL is used for several purposes under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Public Law 113-128. Specifically, WIOA Section 101(36) defines the term “low income individual” for eligibility purposes, and Sections 127(b)(2)(C) and 132(b)(1)(B)(v)(IV) define “disadvantaged youth” and “disadvantaged adult” in terms of the poverty line for LLSIL for state formula allotments.

WIOA defines the term “low income individual” as one who qualifies under various criteria, including an individual who receives, or received for a prior six-month period, income that does not exceed the higher level of the poverty line or 70 percent of the LLSIL.

North Carolina and local Workforce Development Boards use the LLSIL for determining eligibility for Youth and Adult Programs for certain services. WIOA Section 101(36) defines the LLSIL as “that income level (adjusted for regional, metropolitan, urban and rural differences and family size) determined annually by the U.S. Secretary of Labor based on the most recent lower living family budget issued by the Secretary.”

Action: The attached 2016 Income Chart is to be used to determine low-income status of applicants for WIOA services as noted in WIOA Section 101(36).

Effective Date: March 25, 2016 (Per U.S. Department of Labor)

Expiration: Indefinite

Contact: Division Planners

Adjusted Income Chart Identifying the Higher of the Federal Poverty Level Income Guidelines and the 70% Lower Living Standard Income Level Guidelines, Including Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan

**Adjustments for Family Size Differences
(Chart Reflects 6 Months Income)**

Revised: March 28, 2016

**Effective: March 25, 2016
(Per U.S. Department of Labor)**

Family Size	Non-Metropolitan		Metropolitan	
1	\$5,940		\$5,940	
2	\$8,010		\$8,010	
3	\$10,084		\$10,150	
4	\$12,449		\$12,531	
5	\$14,691		\$14,789	
6	\$17,180		\$17,297	
For Each Additional Family Member Add	\$2,489		\$2,508	
<i>Metropolitan Statistical Area Counties</i>				
Alamance County	Cumberland County	Gunpowder County	Nash County	Rowan County
Alexander County	Currituck County	Haywood County	New Hanover County	Stokes County
Brunswick County	Davidson County	Henderson County	Onslow County	Union County
Buncombe County	Davie County	Hoke County	Orange County	Wake County
Burke County	Durham County	Iredell County	Pamlico County	Wayne County
Cabarrus County	Edgecombe County	Johnston County	Pender County	Yadkin County
Caldwell County	Franklin County	Jones County	Person County	
Catawba County	Forsyth County	Lincoln County	Pitt County	
Chatham County	Gaston County	Madison County	Randolph County	
Craven County	Gates County	Mecklenburg County	Rockingham County	