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(SN 08)

WIOA BULLETIN NO. 08-16

DATE: May 16, 2016

TO: WIOA Partners

SUBJECT: 2016 Lower Living Standard Income Level Guidelines

Purpose

The purpose of this bulletin is to transmit the 2016 Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) guidelines.

Background

Criteria for local areas to use to determine whether a person is a low-income individual for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I programs, is set forth in Section (§) 3(36)(A) of the statute. These criteria include use of two sets of data: the poverty guidelines, as published by United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that were issued in WIOA Bulletin 06-16, and 70% of the Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL), as determined by the United States Department of Labor (USDOL). Employed workers making less than 225% of LLSIL are eligible for training services. USDOL revises the LLSIL Guidelines annually to reflect cost of living increases. The revision for 2016 was published in the Federal Register, Vol. 81, No. 58, on Friday, March 25, 2016.

Policy

Effective immediately, when determining an individual's WIOA eligibility based on low-income status as defined in WIOA § 3(36)(A), service providers must use the higher of income guidelines issued by either USDOL, 70% of the LLSIL, *Attachment 1*, or the Poverty Guidelines from the HHS.

Attachment 2, the Program Year (PY) 2016 chart for 225% of LLSIL should be used to determine eligibility for training of employed workers. Both charts attached to this bulletin will be updated annually. These LLSIL Guidelines supersede those issued under WIA Bulletin No. 02-15.

Procedures

Use the higher of either the 70% of LLSIL or the poverty guideline for the appropriate family size to determine low-income status and the 225% of LLSIL to assess eligibility of employed workers to access training. Refer to the *Appendix* for definitions related to this guidance.

Inquiries

Inquiries regarding this bulletin may be directed to Linda Sakamoto at (808) 586-9167.

Attachments/Additional Resources

- Attachment 1, Hawaii 70% Lower Living Standard Income Level for 2016
- Attachment 2, Hawaii 225% Lower Living Standard Income Level for 2016
- [DOL 70 percent LLSIL guidelines, issued and effective March 25, 2016](#)
- [HHS Poverty Guidelines, issued and effective January 25, 2016](#)
- Appendix, Low Income and Self-Sufficiency Related Definitions



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c: ASO-WIOA Unit