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WIOA BULLETIN NO. 04-22

TO: WIOA Partners

FROM: Maricar Pilotin-Freitas, Administrator
Workforce Development Division 

SUBJECT: 2022 Lower Living Standard Income Level Guidelines

PURPOSE

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide the 2022 Lower Living Standard Income Level¹ (LLSIL) Guidelines.

BACKGROUND

LLSIL is used for several purposes under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Specifically, WIOA Section 3(36) defines the term “low-income individual” for eligibility purposes, and Sections 127(b)(2)(C) and 132 (b)(1)(B)(IV) define the terms “disadvantaged youth” and “disadvantaged adult” in terms of the poverty line or LLSIL. The WIOA Section 3(36)(A)(ii) identifies a low-income individual who is in a family with a total family income that does not exceed the higher of 1) the poverty line; or 2) seventy percent (70%) of the LLSIL.

¹ WIOA Section 3(36)(B) defines LLSIL as “that income level (adjusted for regional, metropolitan, urban and rural differences and family size) determined annually by the Secretary of Labor based on the most recent lower living family budget issued by the Secretary.”

The criteria includes two sets of guidelines: 1) The poverty guidelines², which may be formally referenced as “the poverty guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of 42 U.S.C. 9902(2)”; and 2) the LLSIL guidelines³, which include charts that are used by State and local workforce investment areas determined by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration.

POLICY

When determining an individual's WIOA eligibility based on low-income status, service providers should use the higher of income guidelines issued by the Poverty Guidelines or seventy percent (70%) of the LLSIL.

The Program Year 2022 chart for two hundred twenty-five percent (225%) of the LLSIL should be used to determine eligibility for training of employed workers.

This bulletin supersedes WIOA Bulletin No. 45-12 dated April 30, 2021.

PROCEDURES

WIOA Partners should use the higher of the income guidelines.

To be eligible with:

- Poverty Guideline: Must be based on appropriate family size and income shall not exceed the poverty guideline; or
- LLSIL: Must be based on appropriate family size and area (whether metro⁴ or non-metro⁵), income should not exceed 70%; or 225% for employed workers being assessed for training services.

LLSIL metro areas are the City and County of Honolulu and the non-metro areas are the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.

WIOA Partners must safeguard personally identifiable information of applicants and have internal procedures to sufficiently document and clearly identify what calculation and guideline were used to determine eligibility or ineligibility.

² Section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 9902(2)) requires the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to update the poverty guidelines at least annually, adjusting them on the basis of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). The poverty guidelines are used an eligibility criterion by Medicaid and a number of other Federal programs. [FR Doc. 2022-01166 Filed 1-20-22; 8 45 am] https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ETA/llsil/pdfs/HHS_2022.pdf

³ The Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) reflect cost of living increases for the Regions and major metro areas by calculating the percentage change in the most recent Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for an area then applying this calculation to each of the previous year’s LLSIL figures. <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/llsil>

⁴ Metropolitan area measures were calculated from the weighted average CPI-U’s for city size classes A and B/C.

⁵ Non-Metropolitan percent changes for Hawaii were calculated from the CPI-U’s for all urban consumers for city size class D in the Western Region. Generally, the non-metro areas LLSIL are lower than the LLSIL in metro areas. Again this year, the non-metro area LLSIL incomes were larger because the change in CPI-U was smaller in the metro areas compared to the change in CPI-U in the non-metro areas of Hawaii.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This LLSIL policy and procedure are effective as of April 6, 2022.

INQUIRIES

Inquiries or questions regarding this bulletin may be directed to Ms. Jacqueline Dacay at (808) 586-9284 or Jacqueline.L.Dacay@hawaii.gov.

Enclosure

Enclosure 1

2022 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR HAWAII

Persons in family/household	Poverty guideline
1	\$15,630
2	\$21,060
3	\$26,490
4	\$31,920
5	\$37,350
6	\$42,780
7	\$48,210
8	\$53,640

For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$5,430 for each additional person.

HAWAII 2022 FAMILY SIZE AT THE 70% LLSIL

Person in family/household	Metro	Non-Metro	Honolulu
1	\$15,356	\$16,827	\$15,569
2	\$25,155	\$27,576	\$25,507
3	\$34,538	\$37,853	\$35,016
4	\$42,631	\$46,727	\$43,229
5	\$50,309	\$55,141	\$51,012
6	\$58,840	\$64,486	\$59,665
For each additional family member add ¹	\$8,531	\$9,345	\$8,653

HAWAII 2022 FAMILY SIZE AT THE 225% LLSIL

Person in family/household	Metro	Non-Metro	Honolulu
1	\$34,551	\$37,861	\$35,030
2	\$56,599	\$62,046	\$57,391
3	\$77,711	\$85,169	\$78,786
4	\$95,920	\$105,136	\$97,265
5	\$113,195	\$124,067	\$114,777
6	\$132,390	\$145,094	\$134,246
For each additional family member add ²	\$19,195	\$21,026	\$19,469.25

¹ For families larger than six persons, an amount equal to the difference between the six-person and the five-person family income levels should be added to the six-person family income level for each additional person in the family.

² For families larger than six persons, an amount equal to the difference between the six-person and the five-person family income levels should be added to the six-person family income level for each additional person in the family.