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January 9, 2020

To: WIOA Subrecipients of the Orange County
Workforce Development Area

From: Carma Lacy
Director of Workforce Development

Subject: Self-Sufficiency Policy
Information Notice No. 20-OCWDB-01
Supersedes Information Notice No. 17-OCDB-24

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance and establish the self-sufficiency standard for Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adults and Dislocated Workers.

REFERENCES

- WIOA (Public Law 113-128)
- WIOA Section 134(c)(3)(A)(i) and 134(d)(1)(A)(x)
- Title 20 CFR 680.210

EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy is effective immediately upon issuance.

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with WIOA Section 134(c)(3)(A)(i), individuals (employed and unemployed) who receive training must be unlikely or unable to obtain or retain employment that leads to economic self-sufficiency or wages comparable to or higher than wages from previous employment through career services alone. Additionally, they must be in need of training services to obtain or retain employment that leads to economic self-sufficiency or wages comparable to or higher than wages from previous employment. Under WIOA sec. 134(d)(1)(A)(x) local areas have the flexibility to adjust the State standard for economic self-sufficiency for local considerations.

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

The Orange County Workforce Development Board (OCWDB) has adopted a self-sufficiency model that is to be utilized in determining eligibility for WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker customers in need of training services to obtain or retain employment that leads to self-sufficiency and allowing enrollment of employed WIOA Adult and Dislocated Workers who are not earning a self-sufficient wage.



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Self-Sufficiency Standard

Self-sufficiency is based on the two hundred and sixty sixth percentile (266%) of the 2020 Federal Poverty Levels (FPL) as report in an All County Welfare Directors Letter (ACWDL), provided by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). The ceilings were derived from the annual Federal Poverty Level (FPL) figures updated periodically in the Federal Register by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for family sizes of 1-12. By limiting the self-sufficiency model to a family size of 5 within the chart below, the eligibility determination process is simplified.

The 2020 Federal Poverty Level (FPL) Calculations for California based on the 266% ceiling were:

Family Size	Hourly	Monthly Total	Annual Total
1	\$17.68	\$2,829	\$33,942
2	\$23.89	\$3,822	\$45,859
3	\$30.09	\$4,815	\$57,776
4	\$36.80	\$5,808	\$69,692
5	\$42.59	\$6,801	\$81,609

Eligibility for customers in subsequent years shall be determined using the most recent report published. The report can be found here:

<https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/medical/eligibility/Documents/ACWDL/2020/20-03.pdf>

ACTION

Bring this policy to the attention of all affected staff and all relevant parties.

INQUIRIES

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact your Contract Administrator at 714-480-6500.