



Missouri Division of Workforce Development
DWD Issuance 15-2015

Issued: February 19, 2016
Effective: February 19, 2016

Subject: Updated Health and Human Services Poverty Guidelines

1. Purpose: This Issuance provides the annual update of the Health and Human Services (HHS) Poverty Guidelines with the existing 70 percent Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL).

2. Background: Under Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA),¹ a “Low Income Individual” is defined as one who qualifies under various criteria, including being received income for a six-month period that does not exceed the higher level of the Poverty Line or 70 percent of the LLSIL.

Each year, the U.S. Department of Labor provides the LLSIL Guidelines. The Secretary of Labor annually determines the LLSIL for uses described in the law. The 2015 LLSIL may be found in the Federal Register, Volume 80, Number 59, March 27, 2015, pages 16450–16456.

Section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 [42 U.S.C. 9902(2)] requires the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to update, at least annually, the poverty guidelines used as an eligibility criterion by a number of federal programs, including WIOA. The 2016 HHS Poverty Guidelines may be found in the *Federal Register*, Volume 81, Number 15, January 25, 2016, pages 4036–4037.

3. Substance: The 70 Percent LLSIL Guidelines or the HHS Poverty Guidelines are to be used in conjunction with the criteria set forth in WIOA sec. 3(36) for low income individuals when determining eligibility and/or priority of service for WIOA programs.

4. Actions: Effective immediately, the 2015 70 Percent LLSIL Guidelines should be used in conjunction with the 2016 HHS Poverty Guidelines along with the criteria for the “Low Income Individual” to determine eligibility for WIOA Youth programs and priority of services for WIOA Adult programs.

5. Contact: Direct questions or comments regarding this Issuance to Randy Cottrell, Manager, (573) 526-8242, randy.cottrell@ded.mo.gov.

¹ Pub. Law 113-128; 29 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.

6. Reference: Federal Register, Volume 80, Number 59, March 27, 2015, pages 16450–16456. Federal Register, Volume 81, Number 15, January 25, 2016, pages 4036–4037.
7. Rescissions: This Issuance updates, supersedes, and rescinds DWD Issuance 09-2014, Change 1, dated April 10, 2015.
8. Attachments: (1) 2015 70 Percent LLSIL Guidelines and (2) 2016 HHS Poverty Guidelines for Missouri.

The Missouri Division of Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer/program.
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.
Missouri TTY Users can call 800-735-2966 or dial 711.



Amy Sublett
Director
Missouri Division of Workforce Development



Missouri Division of Workforce Development

**2015 70 PERCENT LOWER LIVING STANDARD
INCOME LEVEL (LLSIL) GUIDELINES***

NOTE: Different 70 percent LLSIL guidelines apply to Missouri Local Workforce Development Areas (LWDA) in the following geographical locations:

- The Kansas City and Vicinity area that consists of Cass, Clay, Jackson, Platte, and Ray counties (Kansas City and Vicinity LWDA and East Jackson County LWDA).
- The St. Louis area that consists of Franklin, Jefferson, St. Charles, and Saint Louis counties and the City of St. Louis (Jefferson/Franklin Consortium LWDA, St. Charles County LWDA, Saint Louis County LWDA, and the St. Louis City LWDA)
- The remaining counties of the State in the Central LWDA, Northeast LWDA, Northwest LWDA, Ozark LWDA, South Central LWDA, Southeast LWDA, Southwest LWDA, and West Central LWDA.

| Family Size | Kansas City Area | St. Louis Area | Remainder of Missouri |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | \$8,799 | \$8,655 | \$9,006 |
| 2 | 14,423 | 14,179 | 14,752 |
| 3 | 19,803 | 19,462 | 20,252 |
| 4 | 24,440 | 24,022 | 24,998 |
| 5 | 28,843 | 28,350 | 29,505 |
| 6 | 33,733 | 33,151 | 34,504 |

For families larger than six (6) persons who reside in the Kansas City area, add \$4,890 for each additional member.

For families larger than six (6) persons who reside in the St. Louis area, add \$4,801 for each additional member.

For families larger than six (6) persons residing in the remainder of Missouri, add \$4,999 for each additional member.

*The guideline figures shown represent annual income.



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**2016 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS)
POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR MISSOURI**

The HHS Poverty Guidelines of 2016 are currently in effect:

| Persons in Family | Poverty Guidelines/Annual Income |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1 | \$11,880 |
| 2 | 16,020 |
| 3 | 20,160 |
| 4 | 24,300 |
| 5 | 28,440 |
| 6 | 32,580 |
| 7 | 36,730 |
| 8 | 40,890 |

For families with more than 8 persons, add \$4,160 for each additional person.

The 2016 HHS Poverty Guidelines may be found in the *Federal Register*, Volume 81, Number 15, January 25, 2016, pages 4036–4037.