



**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS**

DWS Operational Guidance Number: OG 08-2021

Date: April 22, 2021

Subject: 2021 Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL)

From:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chet Mottershead".

**Chet Mottershead
Acting Assistant Secretary for Workforce**

Purpose: To transmit the PY2021 income chart identifying the higher of the "Federal Poverty Level Income Guidelines" and the "70% LLSIL Guidelines" for the year and to rescind PS 07-2020, Change 1.

Background: The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) published the LLSIL in the Federal Register on April 9, 2021.

The LLSIL is used for several purposes under the federal 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 for state formula allotments. The governor and state and Local Area Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) use the LLSIL for determining eligibility for youth and adults for certain services.

USDOL Employment and Training Administration (ETA) encourages governors and state/Local Area WDBs to consult the WIOA Final Rule and ETA guidance for more specific guidance in applying LLSIL to program requirements. WIOA defines the term "low income individual" as one who qualifies under various criteria, including an individual who is in a family with total family income that does not exceed the higher level of the poverty line or 70% of the LLSIL.

North Carolina and Local Area WDBs use the LLSIL for determining eligibility for Youth and Adult Programs for certain services. WIOA Section 3(36)(B) 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 2021 LLSIL Adjusted Income Chart is to be used to determine low-income status of applicants for WIOA services as noted in WIOA Section 3(36)(B).

Effective Date: April 9, 2021 (Per USDOL)

Expiration: Indefinite

Contact: Division Planner and Monitor

Attachment: 2021 LLSIL Adjusted Income Chart

**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 Annual Family Size Differences

**Effective: April 9, 2021
(Per U.S. Department of Labor)**

Family Size	Non-Metropolitan	Metropolitan
1	\$12,880	\$12,880
2	\$17,420	\$17,240
3	\$21,960	\$22,258
4	\$26,689	\$27,479
5	\$31,496	\$32,432
6	\$36,833	\$37,931
For Each Additional Family Member Add	\$5,337	\$5,499

Metropolitan Statistical Area Counties

Alamance County	Chatham County	Gaston County	Jones County	Person County
Alexander County	Craven County	Gates County	Lincoln County	Pitt County
Anson County	Cumberland County	Granville County	Madison County	Randolph County
Brunswick County	Currituck County	Guilford County	Mecklenburg County	Rockingham County
Buncombe County	Davidson County	Harnett County	Nash County	Rowan County
Burke County	Davie County	Haywood County	New Hanover County	Stokes County
Cabarrus County	Durham County	Henderson County	Onslow County	Union County
Caldwell County	Edgecombe County	Hoke County	Orange County	Wake County
Camden County	Franklin County	Iredell County	Pamlico County	Wayne County
Catawba County	Forsyth County	Johnston County	Pender County	Yadkin County