

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD OF TULARE COUNTY WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT TITLE I	DATE: November 8, 2023
	SUBJECT: 70 Percent LLSIL, Poverty Guidelines, and Self-Sufficiency Levels for 2023

WIB DIRECTIVE

TUL 23-03

APPROVED BY
 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
MINUTES OF 11-08-2023

TO: WIB SUBRECIPIENTS
 WIB STAFF

SUBJECT: 70 Percent LLSIL, Poverty Guidelines, and Self-Sufficiency Levels for 2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This policy provides guidance and establishes the procedures regarding the 70 Percent Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) for 2023 published by the US Department of Labor (DOL) in the Federal Register on May 8, 2023. This policy also issues the 2023 poverty guidelines published by the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in the Federal Register on January 19, 2023.

This policy applies to all Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Subrecipients of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I activities and services effective on the date of publication in the Federal Register, May 8, 2023, and January 19, 2023, respectively.

This Directive contains some WIB-imposed requirements. All WIB-imposed requirements are indicated by ***bold italic*** type.

This Directive supersedes WIB Directive TUL 22-05 dated September 14, 2022. Retain this Directive until further notice.

REFERENCES

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Sections 3(36), 127(b)(2)(C), 132(b)(1)(B)(v)(IV), and 134(d)(1)(A)(x)
- [Federal Register, Volume 88, Number 88, WIOA 2023 LLSIL \(PDF\) \(May 8, 2023\)](#)
- [Federal Register, Volume 88, Number 12, Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines \(PDF\) \(January 19, 2023\)](#)
- [Employment Development Department of California, WSD 23-02 August 22, 2023, Workforce Services, 70 Percent LLSIL and Poverty Guidelines for 2023.](#)

BACKGROUND

The WIOA Section 3(36)(A) sets the criteria Local Areas must use to determine whether an individual is a low-income individual. These criteria include two sets of data: the poverty guidelines as published by HHS, and the 70 percent of the LLSIL, as published by the DOL. The Local Area must use the higher of these two measures to establish low-income status for eligibility purposes of the WIOA Title I programs.

The WIOA requires annual revisions to both sets of data. All Local Areas use the same poverty guidelines. However, the LLSIL identifies maximum qualifying income levels for residents in either of two broad geographic designations: metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas. Metropolitan income levels apply to residents living within Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) as defined by the Office of Management and Budget. Non-metropolitan income levels apply to places with populations under 50,000. In addition to the broad metropolitan and non-metropolitan designations, the DOL identifies three MSAs in California that have unique LLSILs: the San Diego – Carlsbad MSA, the Los Angeles – Long Beach – Anaheim MSA, and the San Francisco – Oakland – Hayward MS. It is important to note Tulare County is classified as a Metropolitan area. Therefore, the Metropolitan area LLSIL and poverty guidelines were used to establish the 70 Percent LLSIL, Poverty Guidelines, and Self-Sufficiency levels for 2023 for Tulare County.

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Follow these steps to determine if a person is a low-income individual:

1. The Tulare County 70 Percent LLSIL and Poverty Guidelines for 2023 are attached to this directive, Attachment A. Use the highest of either the 70 Percent LLSIL or Poverty Guidelines for the appropriate family size to determine low-income status. Comparing the applicant's actual family income during the six-month income determination period with the six-month figures on the chart enables the reviewer to determine income status.
2. Local Definition of Self-Sufficiency

According to the Employment Development Department (EDD), local Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) are responsible for establishing the criteria that define whether employment leads to self-sufficiency. At the very least, these criteria must stipulate that self-sufficiency is achieved when one's employment income equals or exceeds 100 percent of the Local Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) set for a specific Local Area. ***In alignment with this directive, the WIB has set forth its own criteria for evaluating whether employment results in self-sufficiency. At a minimum, such criteria must provide that self-sufficiency means employment that pays at least 175 percent of the LLSIL established for Tulare County. To assess whether employed Adults (including***

employed Dislocated Workers), meet these self-sufficiency standards, the following considerations are taken into account:

- a. When determining WIOA Title I eligibility for employed adults, refer to Attachment A, Table 2, to determine the self-sufficiency level for the appropriate family size. Comparisons of the applicant's actual family income during the six-month income determination period with 175% of the six-month figures on the chart enable the reviewer to determine self-sufficiency status. Any employed Adult who is not considered to be economically self-sufficient is eligible to receive WIOA Title I career and training services.***
- b. Any employed Dislocated Worker who is not earning 85% of their hourly dislocation wage is eligible to receive WIOA Title I career and training services.***

ACTION

Notify all affected staff of the changes to the LLSIL, poverty guidelines, and Self-Sufficiency Guidelines for Tulare County in this Directive.

INQUIRIES

Please direct inquiries regarding this Directive to the WIB at (559) 713-5200.



Adam Peck
Executive Director

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Tulare County 70 Percent LLSIL and Poverty Guidelines and Employed Adult Worker Self-Sufficiency Guidelines for 2023
- B. Summary of Comments

AP:JB:GA:llg

70 Percent LLSIL and Poverty Guidelines and Employed Adult Worker Self-Sufficiency Guidelines for 2023

The Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) and poverty guidelines are used to establish low-income status for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I programs. Local Workforce Development Areas (Local Area) use the LLSIL to determine youth eligibility, eligibility of employed adults for certain services, and self-sufficiency.

Since the income received during the six-month period immediately prior to the individual's application for WIOA-funded services is used for income determination, each chart below shows the six-month, as well as the annual, figures for each family size. A comparison of the applicant's actual family income during the six-month income determination period with the six-month figures on the charts allows the reviewer to immediately determine an individual's eligibility.

Table 1 – 70% LLSIL and Poverty Guidelines for Tulare County							
Family Size							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Each Add'l add
70% LLSIL							
Annual	\$12,942	\$21,210	\$29,120	\$35,948	\$42,419	\$49,615	+\$7,196
6 Months	\$ 6,471*	\$10,605	\$14,560	\$17,974	\$21,210	\$24,808	+\$3,598
100% LLSIL							
Annual	\$18,488	\$30,300	\$41,600	\$51,354	\$60,599	\$70,878	+\$10,279
6 Months	\$ 9,244	\$15,150	\$20,800	\$25,677	\$30,300	\$35,439	\$5,140
Poverty Guidelines							
Annual	\$14,580	\$19,720	\$24,860	\$30,000	\$35,140	\$40,280	+\$5,140
6 Months	\$ 7,290*	\$ 9,860	\$12,430	\$15,000	\$17,570	\$20,140	+\$2,570

*Determination of low-income status for a Family Size of 1 is based on the poverty guidelines.

Table 2 – Employed Adult Worker Self-Sufficiency Guidelines for Tulare County based on 175% of LLSIL							
Family Size							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Each Add'l add
175 % of 100% LLSIL							
6-Months	\$16,177	\$26,513	\$36,400	\$44,935	\$53,024	\$62,018	+\$8,994

Summary of Comments

Draft Directive 70 Percent LLSIL and Poverty Guidelines for 2023

There was one comment on the draft version of this Directive:

Comment 1:

Is Tulare County considered a Metropolitan area?

Resolution 1:

Yes, Tulare County is considered a Metropolitan area. The following changes were made to the draft directive to clarify that Tulare County is a Metropolitan area:

1. On page 2, at the end of paragraph 2, a sentence has been added to emphasize that Tulare County falls under the metropolitan category.