

MASSACHUSETTS

# Workforce Investment Act

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**WIA Communication No. 05-33**

☒ **Policy**   ☐ **Information**

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**To:** Chief Elected Officials  
Workforce Investment Board Chairs  
Workforce Investment Board Directors  
Title I Administrators  
Career Center Directors  
Title I Fiscal Officers  
DCS Regional Directors for Workforce Integration  
DCS Associate Directors  
DCS Field Managers

**cc:** WIA State Partners

**From:** Susan V. Lawler, Commissioner  
Division of Career Services

**Date:** May 12, 2005

**Subject:** 2005 Poverty Income Guidelines & 2005 70% & 100% Lower Living Standard Income Levels (LLSIL)

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**Purpose:** To provide Local Workforce Investment Boards, Career Center Operators and other local workforce investment partners with the annual update of income guidelines for use when determining economically disadvantaged/low income status for eligibility under the Workforce Investment Act and other programs.

**Background:** Section 101(25) of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) defines “low-income” as, among other things, an individual whose family income is not in excess of the higher of either the poverty level or 70% of the Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL).

Section 663.230 of WIA Final Regulations requires that local boards set the criteria for determining whether employment leads to self-sufficiency. 100% of the LLSIL, as a minimum, must be used in the WIA Title I self-sufficiency standard calculations.

The Department of Health and Human Services published the 2005 Poverty Income Guidelines on February 18, 2005. The Department of Labor published the 2005 Lower Living Standard Income Levels (LLSIL) on May 11, 2005.

**Policy:** The higher of either the 2005 Poverty Income Guidelines or 70% of the 2005 Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) shall be used for eligibility determination for WIA Title I and other programs using economically disadvantaged/low income status criteria. 100% of the LLSIL, as a minimum, must be used in the self-sufficiency standard calculations for WIA Title I.

In workforce investment areas covered by more than one set of LLSIL figures (where there is more than one type of metropolitan area), program operators should use the highest set of LLSIL guidelines for all cities and towns in the entire workforce investment area.

**Action**

**Required:** CEOs, WIBs and program operators shall implement the 2005 Poverty Income Guidelines and 2005 70% and 100% Lower Living Standard Income Levels in the determination of eligibility for WIA Title I and other programs using economically disadvantaged/low income status criteria. 100% of the LLSIL, as a minimum, must be used in the WIA Title I self-sufficiency standard calculations.

**Effective:** Program operators have the choice of using the guidelines retroactively to the effective dates of these charts and re-determining the eligibility of any WIA participants affected by these updates OR using the guidelines as of this issuance date in determining the eligibility of WIA Title I applicants.

**References:** WIA Communication Policy 04-57 (2004 Guidelines)  
Workforce Investment Act of 1998  
CBWL Policy 00-14 Revised, Title I Eligibility Requirements  
WIA Final Regulations, Federal Register 08/11/00  
2005 Poverty Income Guidelines, Federal Register 02/18/05  
2005 Lower Living Standard Income Levels, Federal Register 05/11/05

**Inquiries:** Questions related to this policy should be directed to [PolicyQA@detma.org](mailto:PolicyQA@detma.org) . Please indicate Issuance number and description.

**Filing:** Please file this in your notebook of previously issued WIA Communication Series Issuances as #05-33.

## **2005 70% LOWER LIVING STANDARD INCOME LEVELS (LLSIL)**

As determined by U.S. Department of Labor  
Effective May 11, 2005

FAMILY SIZE	GREATER BOSTON MSA *	NEW ENGLAND MSA *
1	(\$ 9,350)**	(\$ 8,530)**
2	\$15,330	\$ 13,980
3	\$ 21,040	\$ 19,190
4	\$ 25,970	\$ 23,680
5	\$ 30,650	\$ 27,950
6	\$ 35,840	\$ 32,680
Over 6 Increment	\$ 5,190	\$ 4,730

*\*Note:* Workforce investment areas with at least one town or city in the Greater Boston Metropolitan Statistical Area include: Boston, Bristol County, Brockton, Lower Merrimack, Metro North, Metro South/West, New Bedford, Northern Middlesex, North Central, South Coastal, Southern Essex and Southern Worcester. Workforce investment areas with at least one town or city within the New England Metropolitan Statistical Areas, but none within the Greater Boston MSA, include: Berkshire, Franklin/Hampshire, Hampden County and Cape Cod.

## **2005 POVERTY INCOME GUIDELINES**

Published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Effective February 18, 2005

SIZE OF FAMILY	POVERTY GUIDELINE
1	\$ 9,570
2	(\$ 12,830)**
3	(\$ 16,090)
4	(\$ 19,350)
5	(\$ 22,610)
6	(\$ 25,870)
Over 6 Increment	\$ 3,260

*\*\* Note:* For WIA eligibility determination, poverty income levels are higher than the LLSIL only for family size of one.

**100% LOWER LIVING STANDARD INCOME LEVELS (LLSIL)**

**2005 100% LOWER LIVING STANDARD INCOME LEVELS (LLSIL)**

As determined by U.S. Department of Labor

Effective May 11, 2005

FAMILY SIZE	BOSTON CMSA *	MASS. METRO *
1	\$13,360	\$ 12,180
2	\$ 21,890	\$ 19,960
3	\$ 30,060	\$ 27,400
4	\$ 37,100	\$ 33,820
5	\$ 43,780	\$ 39,910
6	\$ 51,200	\$ 46,680
Over 6 Increment	\$ 7,420	\$ 6,770

*\*Note:* Workforce investment areas with at least one town or city in the Greater Boston Metropolitan Statistical Area include: Boston, Bristol County, Brockton, Lower Merrimack, Metro North, Metro South/West, New Bedford, Northern Middlesex, North Central, South Coastal, Southern Essex and Southern Worcester. Workforce investment areas with at least one town or city within the New England Metropolitan Statistical Areas, but none within the Greater Boston MSA, include: Berkshire, Franklin/Hampshire, Hampden County and Cape Cod.