



---

**Date:** February 07, 2011  
**To:** Workforce Development Board Executive Directors  
**From:** Gary Denis, Director   
Bureau of Workforce Training  
**Subject:** **Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Policy Update 11-01-2011 Federal Poverty Levels**

### Purpose

This transmits the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) Federal Poverty Level Guidelines for use in establishing youth program eligibility and local income-related policies. These policies include those related to determining "priority of service," defining self-sufficiency, and providing need-based payments under the WIA.

(Note: The Lower Living Standard Income Level also is used in WIA for eligibility and income-related policy purposes; it is released by the U.S. Department of Labor on an annual basis, typically in late May.)

### Legislative/Regulatory References

- WIA legislation, Section 101 (13), (25) and (36); Section 127(b)(2)(C), Section 132(b)(1)(B)(v)(IV); and Section 134 (d)(4)(E); Section 134 (d)(3)(A)(ii), Section 134 (e)(3)(C)(ii)
- Federal Register: January 20, 2011 (Volume 75, Number 13)] [Notices] [Pages 3637-3638]

### Background

For WIA programs, the federal poverty level must be considered in determining eligibility for youth services and for determining "priority of service" for adults and dislocated workers to receive intensive and training services. The federal poverty level also is considered in development of local policies related to eligibility for need-based payments for dislocated workers and may be a factor in local definition of "self-sufficiency" for service to employed workers and other local policies that incorporate income related guidance.

Each year, the U.S. DHHS issues new poverty guidelines that federal programs must use if the programs include income-related requirements based on the federal poverty level. The federal poverty guidelines for 2011 were released in the *Federal Register* on January 20, 2011. (See <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/>)

### Policy

Effective with this WIA policy update, the federal poverty guidelines for 2011 as published in the *Federal Register* on January 20, 2011, and printed in this WIA Policy Update are to be used as the basis for youth eligibility determination and other local policy guidance based on federal poverty levels.

## 2011 Federal Poverty Levels

Group Size	Annual Amount 100%	100% Monthly	115% Monthly	200% Monthly	Group Size	Annual Amount 100%	100% Monthly	115% Monthly	200% Monthly
1	\$10,890	\$908	\$1,044	\$1,816	6	\$29,990	\$2,499	\$2,874	\$4,498
2	\$14,710	\$1,226	\$1,410	\$2,452	7	\$33,810	\$2,818	\$3,241	\$5,636
3	\$18,530	\$1,544	\$1,776	\$3,088	8	\$37,630	\$3,136	\$3,606	\$6,272
4	\$22,350	\$1,863	\$2,142	\$3,726	9	\$41,450	\$3,454	\$3,973	\$6,908
5	\$26,170	\$2,181	\$2,508	\$4,362	10	\$45,270	\$3,773	\$4,339	\$7,546
					Each Added Person	\$3,820	\$318	\$366	\$636

### Action Required

Review and use these revised federal poverty guidelines to update WIA eligibility guidelines, priority of service policies and other income related policies as necessary for your workforce development area. This information also should be distributed to those providing WIA services.

*Note:*

*This policy update is available at: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwdwia/policy.htm>*

cc: Job Service District Directors  
DWD/DET Local Program Liaisons