

Income Guidelines

Policy

USDA Federal Regulations: 246.7(d) Income criteria and income eligibility determinations. The State agency shall establish, and provide local agencies with, income guidelines, definitions, and procedures to be used in determining an applicant's income eligibility for the Program.

246.7(d)(1) Income eligibility guidelines. The State agency may prescribe income guidelines either equaling the income guidelines established under section 9 of the National School Lunch Act for reduced-price school meals or identical to State or local guidelines for free or reduced-price health care. However, in conforming Program income guidelines to health care guidelines, the State agency shall not establish Program guidelines which exceed the guidelines for reduced-price school meals or are less than 100 percent of the revised poverty income guidelines issued annually by the Department of Health and Human Services. Program applicants who meet the requirements established by paragraph (d)(2)(vi)(A) of this section shall not be subject to the income limits established by State agencies under this paragraph.

- (ii) Annual adjustments in the income guidelines. On or before June 1 each year, FNS will announce adjustments in the income guidelines for reduced-price meals under section 9 of the National School Lunch Act, based on annual adjustments in the revised poverty income guidelines issued by the Department of Health and Human Services.
- (iii) Implementation of the income guidelines. On or before July 1 each year, each State agency shall announce and transmit to each local agency the State agency's family size income guidelines, unless changes in the poverty income guidelines issued by the Department of Health and Human Services do not necessitate changes in the State or local agency's income guidelines. The State agency may implement revised guidelines concurrently with the implementation of income guidelines under the Medicaid program established under Title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 of et seq.). The State agency shall ensure that conforming adjustments are made, if necessary, in local agency income guidelines. The local agency shall implement (revised) guidelines not later than July 1 of each year for which such guidelines are issued by the State.

246.7(d)(2) Income eligibility determinations. The State agency shall ensure that local agencies determine income through the use of a clear and simple application form provided or approved by the State agency.

Authority

- 7 CFR Part 246.7(d)(1)
- 7 CFR 246.7(d)(1)(ii-iii)
- 7 CFR Part 246.7(d)(2)

Procedures

Applicants for the WIC Program must meet income eligibility criteria based on 185 percent of the current Federal Poverty Income Guidelines.

Local agency staff shall apply the following income guidelines effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. Applicants with a gross income less than and including the amounts listed are income eligible for WIC services.

Household Size	Annual Income	Monthly Income	Twice Monthly Income	Bi-Weekly Income	Weekly Income
1	\$29,526	\$2,461	\$1,231	\$1,136	\$568
2	\$40,034	\$3,337	\$1,669	\$1,540	\$770
3	\$50,542	\$4,212	\$2,106	\$1,944	\$972
4	\$61,050	\$5,088	\$2,544	\$2,349	\$1,175
5	\$71,558	\$5,964	\$2,982	\$2,753	\$1,377
6	\$82,066	\$6,839	\$3,420	\$3,157	\$1,579
7	\$92,574	\$7,715	\$3,858	\$3,561	\$1,781
8	\$103,082	\$8,591	\$4,296	\$3,965	\$1,983
9	\$113,590	\$9,466	\$4,733	\$4,369	\$2,185
10	\$124,098	\$10,342	\$5,171	\$4,773	\$2,387
11	\$134,606	\$11,218	\$5,609	\$5,178	\$2,589
12	\$145,114	\$12,093	\$6,047	\$5,582	\$2,791
13	\$155,622	\$12,969	\$6,485	\$5,986	\$2,993
14	\$166,130	\$13,845	\$6,923	\$6,390	\$3,195
15	\$176,638	\$14,720	\$7,360	\$6,794	\$3,397
16	\$187,146	\$15,596	\$7,798	\$7,198	\$3,599
Each add'l family member add:	+ \$10,508	+ \$876	+ \$438	+ \$405	+ \$203

Best Practices

Whenever possible, complete a single income determination. In general, an applicant who is income-eligible for WIC will also be eligible for Maternal Health and Child Health services at no fee.