



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

**The Virginia Community College System
VIRGINIA WORKFORCE LETTER (VWL) #14-18**

TO: LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS

FROM: George Taratsas
WIOA Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Taratsas", positioned to the right of the name in the "FROM:" field.

SUBJECT: 2015 Poverty and 70% Lower Living Standard Income Levels
100% Lower Living Standard Income Levels for determining self-sufficiency under the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act

DATE: July 28, 2015

PURPOSE:

To provide the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) with the current Poverty and 70 % Lower Living Standard Income Levels to be used in determining eligibility under the definition of Low Income.

REFERENCES:

Workforce Investment Act, Section 101(25)

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Section 3 (36)

Federal Register, January 22, 2015 – Department of Health and Human Services, Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines

Federal Register, March 27, 2015 – U.S. Department of Labor – Employment and Training Administration Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act: Lower Living Standard Income Level

Federal Register, July 16, 2015 – U.S. Department of Labor – Employment and Training Administration
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) Correction

BACKGROUND:

Under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA):

In Section 101 (25)(B), the definition of LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUAL- is defined as an individual, who:

25) LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUAL- The term 'low-income individual' means an individual who--

(A) receives, or is a member of a family that receives, cash payments under a Federal, State, or local income-based public assistance program;

(B) received an income, or is a member of a family that received a total family income, for the 6-month period prior to application for the program involved (exclusive of unemployment compensation, child support payments, payments described in subparagraph (A), and old-age and survivors insurance benefits received under section 202 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402)) that, in relation to family size, does not exceed the higher of--

(i) the poverty line, for an equivalent period; or

(ii) 70 percent of the lower living standard income level, for an equivalent period;

(C) is a member of a household that receives (or has been determined within the 6-month period prior to application for the program involved to be eligible to receive) food stamps pursuant to the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.);

(D) qualifies as a homeless individual, as defined in subsections (a) and (c) of section 103 of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302);

(E) is a foster child on behalf of whom State or local government payments are made; or

(F) in cases permitted by regulations promulgated by the Secretary of Labor, is an individual with a disability whose own income meets the requirements of a program described in subparagraph (A) or of subparagraph (B), but who is a member of a family whose income does not meet such requirements.

Effective July 1, 2015:

Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA):

(36) LOW-INCOME INDIVIDUAL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “low-income individual” means an individual who—

(i) receives, or in the past 6 months has received, or is a member of a family that is receiving or in the past 6 months has received, assistance through the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7.S.C. 2011 et seq.), the program of block grants to States for temporary assistance for needy families program under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), or the supplemental security income program established under title XVI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.), or State or local income-based public assistance;

(ii) is in a family with total family income that does not exceed the higher of—

(I) the poverty line; or

(II) 70 percent of the lower living standard income level;

(iii) is a homeless individual (as defined in section 41403(6) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 H. R. 803—12 (42 U.S.C. 14043e–2(6))), or a homeless child or youth (as defined under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11434a(2)));

(iv) receives or is eligible to receive a free or reduced price lunch under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.);

(v) is a foster child on behalf of whom State or local government payments are made; or

(vi) is an individual with a disability whose own income meets the income requirement of clause (ii), but who is a member of a family whose income does not meet this requirement.

GUIDANCE:

The following guidelines are to be used in determining low-income eligibility. Poverty Guidelines are to be used for the “poverty line.” The 70% Lower Living Standard Income Level appropriate to the applicant’s place of residence should be used to determine eligibility, where appropriate.

The 100% of the Lower Level Standard Income Levels are to be applied when determining whether employment leads to self-sufficiency under **Workforce Investment Act** programs. The 100% levels **are not to be used to determine “low income” eligibility.**

2015 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia	
<u>Size of Family Unit</u>	<u>Poverty Guideline</u>
1	\$11,770
2	15,930
3	20,090
4	24,250
5	28,410
6	32,570
7	36,730
8	40,890

For family units with more than **8** members, add **\$4,160** for each additional member.

Federal Register, January 22, 2015 – Department of Health and Human Services, Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines

70% Lower Living Standard Income Level	
Metro-Level – SOUTH Region	
<u>Size of Family Unit</u>	<u>70% LLSIL</u>
1	(\$8,892)
2	(14,717)
3	20,199
4	24,937
5	29,432
6	34,422

For the values in parentheses, the Poverty level is higher for the corresponding family size. For each family member above **6** add **\$4,990**.

Federal Register, March 27, 2015 – U.S. Department of Labor – Employment and Training Administration Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act: Lower Living Standard Income Level

Federal Register, July 16, 2015 – U.S. Department of Labor – Employment and Training Administration Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act; Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) Correction

The Metro-Levels apply to the following jurisdictions (Local Workforce Area):

Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford, VA Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) -

- Giles County (LWIA 02)
- Montgomery County (LWIA 02)
- Pulaski County (LWIA 02)
- Radford City (LWIA 02)

Bristol, VA portion of Kingsport-Bristol-Bristol, TN, VA MSA -

- Scott County (LWIA 01)
- Washington County (LWIA 02)
- Bristol City (LWIA 02)

Charlottesville, VA MSA -

- Albemarle County (LWIA 06)
- Fluvanna County (LWIA 06)
- Greene County (LWIA 06)
- Nelson County (LWIA 06)
- Charlottesville City (LWIA 06)

Danville, VA MSA –

- Pittsylvania County (LWIA 17)
- Danville City (LWIA 17)

Harrisonburg, VA MSA –

- Rockingham County (LWIA 04)
- Harrisonburg City (LWIA 04)

Lynchburg, VA MSA -

- Amherst County (LWIA 07)
- Appomattox County (LWIA 07)
- Bedford County (LWIA 07)
- Campbell County (LWIA 07)
- Bedford City (LWIA 07)
- Lynchburg City (LWIA07)

Richmond, VA MSA -

- Amelia County (LWIA 08)
- Caroline County (LWIA 13)
- Charles City County (LWIA 09)
- Chesterfield County (LWIA 09)
- Dinwiddie County (LWIA 15)
- Goochland County (LWIA 09)

- Hanover County (LWIA 09)
- Henrico County (LWIA 09)
- King and Queen County (LWIA 13)
- King William County (LWIA 13)
- Louisa County (LWIA 06)
- New Kent County (LWIA 09)
- Powhatan County (LWIA 09)
- Prince George County (LWIA 15)
- Sussex County (LWIA 15)
- Colonial Heights City (LWIA 15)
- Hopewell City (LWIA 15)
- Petersburg City (LWIA 15)
- Richmond City (LWIA 10)

Roanoke, VA MSA –

- Botetourt County (LWIA 03)
- Craig County (LWIA 03)
- Franklin County (LWIA 03)
- Roanoke County (LWIA 03)
- Roanoke City (LWIA 03)
- Salem City (LWIA 03)

Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA MSA –

- Gloucester County (LWIA 14)
- Isle of Wight County (LWIA 16)
- James City County (LWIA 14)
- Mathews County (LWIA 13)
- Surry County (LWIA 15)
- York County (LWIA 14)
- Chesapeake City (LWIA 16)
- Hampton City (LWIA 14)
- Newport News City (LWIA 14)
- Norfolk City (LWIA 16)
- Poquoson City (LWIA 14)
- Portsmouth City (LWIA 16)
- Suffolk City (LWIA 16)
- Virginia Beach City (LWIA 16)
- Williamsburg City (LWIA 14)

Winchester, VA MSA –

- Frederick County (LWIA 04)
- Winchester City (LWIA 04)

70% Lower Living Standard Income Level	
Non-Metro-Level – SOUTH Region	
<u>Size of Family Unit</u>	<u>70% LLSIL</u>
1	(\$8,846)
2	(14,492)
3	19,890
4	24,554
5	28,976
6	33,886

For the values in parentheses, the Poverty level is higher for the corresponding family size. For each family member above **6** add **\$4,974**. The above standards apply to the following jurisdictions (Local Workforce Investment Areas):

Southwestern Virginia (LWIA 01) –

- Buchanan County
- Dickenson County
- Lee County
- Russell County
- Tazewell County
- Wise County
- Norton City

New River/Mount Rogers (LWIA 02) -

- Bland County
- Carroll County
- Floyd County
- Grayson County
- Smyth County
- Wythe County
- Galax City

Western Virginia (LWIA 03) -

- Alleghany County
- Covington City

Shenandoah Valley (LWIA 04) -

- Augusta County
- Bath County
- Highland County
- Page County
- Rockbridge County
- Buena Vista City
- Lexington City
- Staunton City
- Waynesboro City
- Shenandoah County

Piedmont Workforce Network (LWIA 06) -

- Culpeper County
- Madison County
- Orange County
- Rappahannock County

Region 2000/Central Virginia (LWIA 07) -

- No jurisdictions in LWIA 07 are to use the Non-Metro Income Level.

South Central (LWIA 08) -

- Brunswick County
- Buckingham County
- Charlotte County
- Cumberland County
- Halifax County
- Lunenburg County
- Mecklenburg County
- Nottoway County
- Prince Edward County

Capital Area (LWIA 09) -

- No jurisdictions in LWIA 09 are to use the Non-Metro Income Level.

Northern Virginia (LWIA 11) –

- No jurisdictions in LWIA 11 are to use the Non-Metro Income Level.

Alexandria/Arlington (LWIA 12) –

- No jurisdictions in LWIA 12 are to use the Non-Metro Income Level.

Bay Consortium (LWIA 13) –

- Accomack County
- Essex County
- King George County
- Lancaster County
- Middlesex County
- Northampton County
- Northumberland County
- Richmond County
- Westmoreland County

Greater Peninsula (LWIA 14) -

- No jurisdictions in LWIA 14 are to use the Non-Metro Income Level.

Crater Area (LWIA 15) –

- Greensville County
- Emporia City

Hampton Roads (LWIA 16) -

- Southampton County
- Franklin City

West Piedmont (LWIA 17) -

- Henry County
- Patrick County
- Martinsville City

Federal Register, March 27, 2015 – U.S. Department of Labor – Employment and Training Administration Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act: Lower Living Standard Income Level

70% Lower Living Standard Income Level	
Washington-Baltimore, DC/MD/VA/WV	
<u>Size of Family Unit</u>	<u>70% LLSIL</u>
1	(\$11,461)
2	18,782
3	25,780
4	31,822
5	37,557
6	43,923

For the values in parentheses, the Poverty level is higher for the corresponding family size. For each family member above 6 add \$6,366. The above standards apply to the following jurisdictions (Local Workforce Investment Areas) **only**:

Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV MSA –

- Arlington County (LWIA 12)
- Clarke County (LWIA 04)
- Fairfax County (LWIA 11)
- Fauquier County (LWIA 06)
- Loudoun County (LWIA 11)
- Prince William County (LWIA 11)
- Spotsylvania County (LWIA 13)
- Stafford County (LWIA 13)
- Warren County (LWIA 04)
- Alexandria City (LWIA 12)
- Fairfax City (LWIA 11)
- Falls Church City (LWIA 11)
- Fredericksburg City (LWIA 13)
- Manassas City (LWIA 11)
- Manassas Park City (LWIA 11)

Federal Register, March 27, 2015 – U.S. Department of Labor – Employment and Training Administration Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act: Lower Living Standard Income Level

UPDATED 2014 LOWER LIVING STANDARD INCOME LEVEL (100%) BY FAMILY SIZE

The following tables are used to determine the minimum level for establishing self-sufficiency criteria at the local level. They are not to be used in determining low income for youth or adults.

Federal Register, March 27, 2015 – U.S. Department of Labor – Employment and Training Administration Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act: Lower Living Standard Income Level

100% Lower Living Standard Income Level	
Metro Level – SOUTH Region SELF-SUFFICIENCY	
<u>Size of Family Unit</u>	<u>100% LLSIL</u>
1	\$13,792
2	22,598
3	31,017
4	38,293
5	45,196
6	52,858

For each family member above **6** add **\$7,662** the above standards apply to the following jurisdictions (Local Workforce Investment Areas):

Blacksburg-Christiansburg-Radford, VA Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) –

- Giles County (LWIA 02)
- Montgomery County (LWIA 02)
- Pulaski County (LWIA 02)
- Radford City (LWIA 02)

Bristol, VA portion of Kingsport-Bristol-Bristol, TN, VA MSA -

- Scott County (LWIA 01)
- Washington County (LWIA 02)
- Bristol City (LWIA 02)

Charlottesville, VA MSA -

- Albemarle County (LWIA 06)
- Fluvanna County (LWIA 06)
- Greene County (LWIA 06)
- Nelson County (LWIA 06)
- Charlottesville City (LWIA 06)

Danville, VA MSA –

- Pittsylvania County (LWIA 17)
- Danville City (LWIA 17)

Harrisonburg, VA MSA –

- Rockingham County (LWIA 04)
- Harrisonburg City (LWIA 04)

Lynchburg, VA MSA -

- Amherst County (LWIA 07)
- Appomattox County (LWIA 07)
- Bedford County (LWIA 07)
- Campbell County (LWIA 07)
- Bedford City (LWIA 07)
- Lynchburg City (LWIA07)

Richmond, VA MSA -

- Amelia County (LWIA 08)
- Caroline County (LWIA 13)
- Charles City County (LWIA 09)
- Chesterfield County (LWIA 09)
- Dinwiddie County (LWIA 15)
- Goochland County (LWIA 09)
- Hanover County (LWIA 09)
- Henrico County (LWIA 09)
- King and Queen County (LWIA 13)
- King William County (LWIA 13)
- Louisa County (LWIA 06)
- New Kent County (LWIA 09)
- Powhatan County (LWIA 09)
- Prince George County (LWIA 15)
- Sussex County (LWIA 15)
- Colonial Heights City (LWIA 15)
- Hopewell City (LWIA 15)
- Petersburg City (LWIA 15)
- Richmond City (LWIA 10)

Roanoke, VA MSA –

- Botetourt County (LWIA 03)
- Craig County (LWIA 03)
- Franklin County (LWIA 03)
- Roanoke County (LWIA 03)
- Roanoke City (LWIA 03)
- Salem City (LWIA 03)

Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA MSA –

- Gloucester County (LWIA 14)
- Isle of Wight County (LWIA 16)

- James City County (LWIA 14)
- Mathews County (LWIA 13)
- Surry County (LWIA 15)
- York County (LWIA 14)
- Chesapeake City (LWIA 16)
- Hampton City (LWIA 14)
- Newport News City (LWIA 14)
- Norfolk City (LWIA 16)
- Poquoson City (LWIA 14)
- Portsmouth City (LWIA 16)
- Suffolk City (LWIA 16)
- Virginia Beach City (LWIA 16)
- Williamsburg City (LWIA 14)

Winchester, VA MSA –

- Frederick County (LWIA 04)
- Winchester City (LWIA 04)

Federal Register, March 27, 2015 – U.S. Department of Labor – Employment and Training Administration Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act: Lower Living Standard Income Level

100% Lower Living Standard Income Level	
Non-Metro-Level – SOUTH Region – SELF-SUFFICIENCY	
<u>Size of Family Unit</u>	<u>100% LLSIL</u>
1	\$12,637
2	20,703
3	28,415
4	35,077
5	41,394
6	48,409

For each family member above **6** add **\$7,015**. The above standards apply to the following jurisdictions:

Southwestern Virginia (LWIA 01) –

- Buchanan County
- Dickenson County

- Lee County
- Russell County
- Tazewell County
- Wise County
- Norton City

New River/Mount Rogers (LWIA 02) -

- Bland County
- Carroll County
- Floyd County
- Grayson County
- Smyth County
- Wythe County
- Galax City

Western Virginia (LWIA 03) -

- Alleghany County
- Covington City

Shenandoah Valley (LWIA 04) -

- Augusta County
- Bath County
- Highland County
- Page County
- Rockbridge County
- Buena Vista City
- Lexington City
- Staunton City
- Waynesboro City
- Shenandoah County

Piedmont Workforce Network (LWIA 06) -

- Culpeper County
- Orange County
- Rappahannock County

Region 2000/Central Virginia (LWIA 07) -

- No jurisdictions in LWIA 07 are to use the Non-Metro Income Level.

South Central (LWIA 08) -

- Brunswick County
- Buckingham County
- Charlotte County
- Cumberland County
- Halifax County
- Lunenburg County
- Nottoway County
- Prince Edward County

Capital Area (LWIA 09) -

- No jurisdictions in LWIA 09 are to use the Non-Metro Income Level.

Northern Virginia (LWIA 11) –

- No jurisdictions in LWIA 11 are to use the Non-Metro Income Level.

Alexandria/Arlington (LWIA 12) –

- No jurisdictions in LWIA 12 are to use the Non-Metro Income Level.

Bay Consortium (LWIA 13) –

- Accomack County
- Essex County
- King George County
- Lancaster County
- Mathews County
- Middlesex County
- Northampton County
- Richmond County
- Westmoreland County

Greater Peninsula (LWIA 14) -

- No jurisdictions in LWIA 14 are to use the Non-Metro Income Level.

Crater Area (LWIA 15) –

- Greensville County

Hampton Roads (LWIA 16) -

- Southampton County
- Franklin City

West Piedmont (LWIA 17) -

- Henry County
- Patrick County
- Martinsville County

100% Lower Living Standard Income Level	
Washington-Baltimore, DC/MD/VA/WV- SELF-SUFFICIENCY	
<u>Size of Family Unit</u>	<u>100% LLSIL</u>
1	\$16,307
2	26,724
3	36,682
4	45,279
5	53,439
6	62,497

For each family member above **6** add **\$9,058**.

The above standards apply to the following jurisdictions (Local Workforce Investment Areas) **only**:

Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV MSA –

- Arlington County (LWIA 12)
- Clarke County (LWIA 04)
- Fairfax County (LWIA 11)
- Fauquier County (LWIA 06)
- Loudoun County (LWIA 11)
- Prince William County (LWIA 11)
- Spotsylvania County (LWIA 13)
- Stafford County (LWIA 13)
- Warren County (LWIA 04)
- Alexandria City (LWIA 12)
- Fairfax City (LWIA 11)
- Falls Church City (LWIA 11)
- Fredericksburg City (LWIA 13)
- Manassas City (LWIA 11)
- Manassas Park City (LWIA 11)