



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

**The Virginia Community College System
VIRGINIA WORKFORCE LETTER (VWL) #15-03, Change 1**

TO: LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS

FROM: George Taratsas 
Administrator, Federal Workforce Programs

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

REVISION DATE: February 24, 2016

PURPOSE:

To provide the current Poverty and 70% Lower Living Standard Income Levels to be used in determining eligibility under the definition of Low Income for services provided under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I. VWL 15-03, Change 1 is an update to VWL 15-03; the revision addresses the changes referenced in the Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) 10-15, Correction to the 2015 Lower Living Standard Income Level.

VWL 15-03, Change 1 rescinds VWL 15-03.

REFERENCES:

WIOA 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

Training and Employment Guidance Letter 10-15; Subject: Correction to the 2015 Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL); Dated December 22, 2015

BACKGROUND:

Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA):

Section 3 (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 WIOA Title I 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 Development Area (LWDA)):

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

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

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

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

Charlottesville, VA MSA -

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

Danville, VA MSA –

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

Harrisonburg, VA MSA –

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

Lynchburg, VA MSA -

- Amherst County (LWDA 07)
- Appomattox County (LWDA 07)
- Bedford County (LWDA 07)
- Campbell County (LWDA 07)
- Bedford City (LWDA 07)
- Lynchburg City (LWDA 07)

Richmond, VA MSA -

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

Roanoke, VA MSA –

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

Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA MSA –

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

Winchester, VA MSA –

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

70% Lower Living Standard Income Level	
Non-Metro-Level – SOUTH Region	
<u>Size of Family Unit</u>	<u>70% LLSIL</u>
1	(\$8,961)
2	(14,681)
3	20,149
4	24,873
5	29,353
6	34,327

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 Development Areas):

Southwestern Virginia (LWDA 01) –

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

New River/Mount Rogers (LWDA 02) -

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

Western Virginia (LWDA 03) -

- Alleghany County
- Covington City

Shenandoah Valley (LWDA 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 (LWDA 06) -

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

Region 2000/Central Virginia (LWDA 07) -

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

South Central (LWDA 08) -

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

Capital Area (LWDA 09) -

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

Northern Virginia (LWDA 11) –

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

Alexandria/Arlington (LWDA 12) –

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

Bay Consortium (LWDA 13) –

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

Greater Peninsula (LWDA 14) -

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

Crater Area (LWDA 15) –

- Greensville County
- Emporia City

Hampton Roads (LWDA 16) -

- Southampton County
- Franklin City

West Piedmont (LWDA 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 Development Areas) **only**:

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

- Arlington County (LWDA 12)
- Clarke County (LWDA 04)
- Fairfax County (LWDA 11)
- Fauquier County (LWDA 06)
- Loudoun County (LWDA 11)
- Prince William County (LWDA 11)
- Spotsylvania County (LWDA 13)
- Stafford County (LWDA 13)
- Warren County (LWDA 04)
- Alexandria City (LWDA 12)
- Fairfax City (LWDA 11)

- Falls Church City (LWDA 11)
- Fredericksburg City (LWDA 13)
- Manassas City (LWDA 11)
- Manassas Park City (LWDA 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 Development Areas):

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

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

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

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

Charlottesville, VA MSA -

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

Danville, VA MSA –

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

Harrisonburg, VA MSA –

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

Lynchburg, VA MSA -

- Amherst County (LWDA 07)
- Appomattox County (LWDA 07)
- Bedford County (LWDA 07)
- Campbell County (LWDA 07)
- Bedford City (LWDA 07)
- Lynchburg City (LWDA07)

Richmond, VA MSA -

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

Roanoke, VA MSA –

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

Virginia Beach-Norfolk-Newport News, VA MSA –

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

Winchester, VA MSA –

- Frederick County (LWDA 04)
- Winchester City (LWDA 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 (LWDA 01) –

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

New River/Mount Rogers (LWDA 02) -

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

Western Virginia (LWDA 03) -

- Alleghany County
- Covington City

Shenandoah Valley (LWDA 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 (LWDA 06) -

- Culpeper County
- Orange County
- Rappahannock County

Region 2000/Central Virginia (LWDA 07) -

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

South Central (LWDA 08) -

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

Capital Area (LWDA 09) -

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

Northern Virginia (LWDA 11) –

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

Alexandria/Arlington (LWDA 12) –

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

Bay Consortium (LWDA 13) –

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

Greater Peninsula (LWDA 14) -

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

Crater Area (LWDA 15) –

- Greensville County

Hampton Roads (LWDA 16) -

- Southampton County
- Franklin City

West Piedmont (LWDA 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 (LWDAs) **only**:

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

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