

**Monterey County Workforce Development Board (WDB)**  
LOCAL POLICY #2017-01

---

Effective Date: August 25, 2017

Initial Release/Effective Date: October 5, 2004  
Revision Dates: Jan 19, 2011, Sep 22, 2015, Jul 21, 2016 and Aug 25, 2017  
Supersedes WDB Policy: 2011-01  
Full WDB Adopted: April 6, 2011

---

**TO:** Monterey County Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Title I Service Providers

**SUBJECT:** 2017 Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) and Poverty Guidelines

**PURPOSE:** To provide the annual update of the LLSIL and Poverty Guidelines used to establish low-income status for WIOA Title I programs to determine income eligibility for Monterey County customers and self-sufficiency income levels for employed adults.

Required updates to this policy and the attached LLSIL chart will be done annually and automatically. This policy supersedes WDB Policy 2011-01 with LLSIL and Poverty Guidelines for 2016. Retain this policy until further notice.

**REFERENCES:** Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Sections 3(36), 127(b)(2)(C), 132(b)(1)(B)(v)(IV), and 134 (d)(1)(A)(x); Federal Register, Volume 82, Number 98, “WIOA; LLSIL” (May 23, 2017); Federal Register, Volume 82, Number 19, “Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines” (January 31, 2017); State of CA Employment Development Department, Workforce Services Directive WSD17-04; Table 4 (August 25, 2017), and Insight Center for Community Economic Development, Self-Sufficiency Standard Tool for California.

**BACKGROUND:** The WIOA Section 3(36)(A) sets the criteria local areas use in determining whether an individual is a “low-income individual”. This criterion includes two sets of data: the poverty guidelines, as published by HHS, and 70 percent of the LLSIL, as determined by the Secretary of Labor. The WIOA requires annual revisions to both sets of data. To establish low-income status for eligibility purposes of WIOA Title I programs, a “low-income Individual” is one who qualifies under various criteria, including an individual who received income for a six-month period that does not exceed the higher level of the poverty line or 70 percent of the LLSIL. 100 percent of the LLSIL, as a minimum, must be used in the WIOA Title I self-sufficiency standard calculations, which means employment that pays at least 100 percent of the LLSIL.

In 2014, the Insight Center for Community Economic Development developed the California Self-Sufficiency Standard for California and for 58 counties across the state. It recommends the self-sufficiency standard of \$33.56 per hour for Monterey County. This standard is based on a family unit of four consisting of Two Adults and Two Children (one preschooler and one school-age). It equates to \$5,817 a month, and \$69,809 annually. This tool provides an estimated measurement and calculates the income needed by working families to meet their basic needs in Monterey County that includes county-specific costs for housing, food, and health care, as well as costs associated with work including transportation, childcare, and taxes. The Self-Sufficiency Standard Tool for California provided the basis to determine the 200 percent Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) economic self-sufficiency guidelines set forth in this policy.

**POLICY:** It is the policy of the Monterey County Workforce Development Board (WDB) that it will set a self-sufficiency standard for all service providers funded under WIOA Title I in Monterey County. The attached LLSIL and self-sufficiency wage scale is reflective of the annually updated LLSIL adjusted up to 200 percent.

**1. For Monterey County WIOA Providers –**

The 70 percent LLSIL and poverty guidelines for Monterey County can be found on Table 1 of the attachment.

**2. For Monterey County WIOA Adult Service Providers –**

Eligibility determinations for adult customers enrolled by Monterey County service providers funded under WIOA Title I shall not exceed the income and family size amounts addressed on Table 2 of the attachment, calculated at 200% of the LLSIL.

Participants that receive and complete WIOA Title I funded training must be placed into unsubsidized employment upon completion of training and paid a minimum of \$14.00 per hour to meet the self-sufficiency standard for Monterey County.

**ATTACHMENT:** LLSIL and Poverty Guidelines Chart

**INQUIRIES:** For questions or assistance related to this policy, please contact the Monterey County Workforce Development Board staff at (831) 796-6434. This policy is posted on the WDB website located at: [www.montereycountywdb.org/policies/](http://www.montereycountywdb.org/policies/)