

Public Policy for Eligibility Determination Based on Self-Sufficiency Criteria REVISED 05/2025

Introduction

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) is intended to provide workforce development activities that increase the employment, retention, and income of participants, and as a result, improve the size of the workforce, reduce reliance on public assistance, and improve the nation's competitiveness.

In line with these purposes, the Bayamón – Comerío Local Workforce Development Area, through its Local Board, seeks to promote education, occupational development and economic independence of all families. This includes families who have an employed member, but who need assistance in developing the skills necessary to obtain a higher-paying job, especially a job that allows them to become self-sufficient or financially sufficient.

Purpose

Establish criteria for determining whether income, at the time of eligibility or entry from a placement, leads to an individual's "self-sufficiency" under the Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs. This policy will be used to determine participant eligibility and to determine whether training to be offered will result in a placement that allows for self-sufficiency.

Base Legal

To operationalize the term "self-sufficiency," WIOA Bylaws (Section 680.760) require the Local Workforce Development Board to establish its own criteria for "self-sufficiency." In the aforementioned section, it is stated that the term "self-sufficiency" at a minimum shall mean: employment that pays at least the "Lower Living Standard Income Level" (LLSIL).

This term means that level of income adjusted for regional, metropolitan, urban, rural, and family size differences determined annually by the Federal Secretary of Labor, based on the most recent lowest-income household budget.

An individual is considered low-income when, under Section 101(36)(A)(ii), he or she receives an income of 70% of the LLSIL.

Public Policy of the Bayamón – Comerío Local Area

The Bayamón – Comerío Local Workforce Development Board establishes as a public policy that the "Lower Living Standard Income Level" guide be carried out at 100%, in accordance with the updated table and notified annually by the Federal of Employment and Training Administration (ETA), which will be the criterion for determining whether an individual's income or employment allows for "self-sufficiency." The table comes through the policy issued in a TEGL, which is referred to the One Stop Center by our Management Information System (MIS).

Such guidance, therefore, is to be used to determine the eligibility of employed adults and employed workers at risk of displacement who have been determined to be in need of Career Services and Training Services under WIOA. The guide should also be used to determine whether the job or occupation in which the eligible person will be trained leads to self-sufficiency, once placed in that job, since many job openings in our labor market do not pay wages conducive to self-sufficiency.

Aware of this, the Local Workforce Development Board considers the federal poverty guidelines (LLSIL) as a benchmark for promoting careers, which because of their long-term growth potential, can lead to high-paying employment opportunities, i.e., to promote jobs that while they may not allow the family to meet the standard of self-sufficiency immediately, if it allows them to reach that standard, as their income increases and as a goal after completing a training sponsored by WIOA funds.

The Local Board has chosen to adopt the Family Income Index (LLSIL) issued by the Federal Secretary each year as a practical standard of the amount of income a working individual needs to meet their basic needs without government subsidies compared to 70% of the LLSIL.

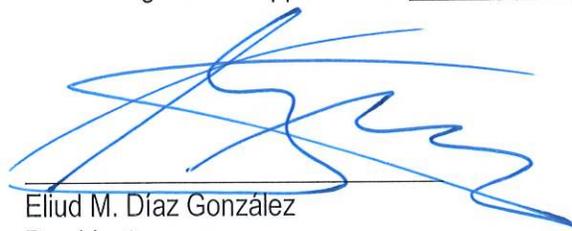
Criteria for People with Disabilities

Eligibility for individuals with disabilities will be based on the family criterion of one, of 70% of the LLSIL for the entry level to the program prior to achieving self-sufficiency, where the family gain of one, will be measured by 100% of the LLSIL.

VALIDITY

This policy will be effective upon approval and will remain in effect until amended.

Signed and approved on June 24, 2016.



Eliud M. Díaz González
President
Local Workforce Development Board

