



**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS**

**DWS Operational Guidance Number: OG 08-2021, Change 1**

**Date: July 1, 2021**

**Subject: 2021 Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL)**

**From:**

  
Chet Mottershead  
Assistant Secretary for Workforce

**Purpose:** To transmit the PY2021 income chart identifying the higher of the "Federal Poverty Level Income Guidelines" and the "70% LLSIL Guidelines" for the year revising the WIOA "disadvantaged youth and disadvantaged adult" reference, in addition to correcting the funding level listed for Family of Two Metropolitan, as well as to rescind OG 08-2021.

**Background:** The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) published the LLSIL in the Federal Register on April 9, 2021.

The LLSIL is used for several purposes under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Specifically, WIOA Section 3(36) defines the term "low-income individual" for eligibility purposes, and Sections 127(b)(2)(C) and 132(b)(1)(B)(v)(IV) define the terms "disadvantaged youth" and "disadvantaged adult" in terms of the poverty line or LLSIL for state formula allotments. The governor and state and Local Area Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) use the LLSIL for determining eligibility for youth and adults for certain services.

USDOL Employment and Training Administration (ETA) encourages governors, state, and Local Area WDBs to consult the WIOA Final Rule and ETA guidance for more specific guidance in applying LLSIL to program requirements. WIOA defines the term "low income individual" as one who qualifies under various criteria, including an individual who is in a family with total family income that does not exceed the higher level of the poverty line or 70% of the LLSIL.

North Carolina and Local Area WDBs use the LLSIL for determining eligibility for Youth and Adult Programs for certain services. WIOA Section 3(36)(B) defines the LLSIL as "that income level (adjusted for regional,

metropolitan, urban and rural differences, and family size) determined annually by the U.S. Secretary of Labor based on the most recent lower living family budget issued by the Secretary."

**Action:** The attached 2021 LLSIL Adjusted Income Chart is to be used to determine low-income status of applicants for WIOA services as noted in WIOA Section 3(36)(B).

**Effective Date:** April 9, 2021 (Per USDOL)

**Expiration:** Indefinite

**Contact:** DWS Planner and Monitor

**Attachment:** 2021 LLSIL Adjusted Income Chart

**Rescinded**