



BILLING CODE: 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC):

2018/2019 Income Eligibility Guidelines

AGENCY: Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), USDA.

ACTION: Notice

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (“Department”) announces adjusted income eligibility guidelines to be used by State agencies in determining the income eligibility of persons applying to participate in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). These income eligibility guidelines are to be used in conjunction with the WIC Regulations.

DATES: Implementation Date July 1, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kurtria Watson, Chief, Policy Branch, Supplemental Food Programs Division, FNS, USDA, 3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22302, (703) 605-4387.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Executive Order 12866:

This notice is exempt from review by the Office of Management and Budget under Executive Order 12866.

Regulatory Flexibility Act:

This action is not a rule as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612) and thus is exempt from the provisions of this Act.

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995:

This notice does not contain reporting or recordkeeping requirements subject to approval by the Office of Management and Budget in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507).

Executive Order 12372:

This program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Programs under No. 10.557, and is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372, which requires intergovernmental consultation with State and local officials (7 CFR part 3015, Subpart V, 48 FR 29100, June 24, 1983, and 49 FR 22675, May 31, 1984).

Description:

Section 17(d)(2)(A) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1786(d)(2)(A)), requires the Secretary of Agriculture to establish income criteria to be used with nutritional risk criteria in determining a person's eligibility for participation in the WIC Program. The law provides that persons will be income-eligible for the WIC Program only if they are members of families that satisfy the income standard prescribed for reduced-price school meals under section 9(b) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1758(b)). Under section 9(b), the income limit for reduced-price school meals is 185 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines, as adjusted. Section 9(b) also requires that these guidelines be revised annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index. The annual revision for 2018 was published by the Department of Health

and Human Services (HHS) at 83 FR 2642, January 18, 2018. The guidelines published by HHS are referred to as the “poverty guidelines.”

Section 246.7(d)(1) of the WIC regulations (Title 7, Code of Federal Regulations) specifies that State agencies may prescribe income guidelines either equaling the income guidelines established under Section 9 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act for reduced-price school meals, or identical to State or local guidelines for free or reduced-price health care. However, in conforming WIC income guidelines to State or local health care guidelines, the State cannot establish WIC guidelines which exceed the guidelines for reduced-price school meals, or which are less than 100 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines. Consistent with the method used to compute income eligibility guidelines for reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program, the poverty guidelines were multiplied by 1.85 and the results rounded upward to the next whole dollar.

At this time, the Department is publishing the maximum and minimum WIC income eligibility guidelines by household size for the period of July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. Consistent with section 17(f)(17) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1786(f)(17)), a State agency may implement the revised WIC income eligibility guidelines concurrently with the implementation of income eligibility guidelines under the Medicaid Program established under Title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396, et seq.). State agencies may coordinate implementation with the revised Medicaid guidelines, i.e., earlier in the year, but in no case may implementation take place later than July 1, 2018. State agencies that do not coordinate implementation with the revised Medicaid guidelines must implement the WIC income eligibility guidelines on or before July 1, 2018.

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES
(Applicable from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019)

Household Size	Federal Poverty Guidelines- 100%					Reduced Price Meals - 185%				
	Annual	Monthly	Twice-Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Twice-Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly
48 Contiguous States, D.C., Guam and Territories										
1.....	\$12,140	\$1,012	\$506	\$467	\$234	\$22,459	\$1,872	\$936	\$864	\$432
2.....	16,460	1,372	686	634	317	30,451	2,538	1,269	1,172	586
3.....	20,780	1,732	866	800	400	38,443	3,204	1,602	1,479	740
4.....	25,100	2,092	1,046	966	483	46,435	3,870	1,935	1,786	893
5.....	29,420	2,452	1,226	1,132	566	54,427	4,536	2,268	2,094	1,047
6.....	33,740	2,812	1,406	1,298	649	62,419	5,202	2,601	2,401	1,201
7.....	38,060	3,172	1,586	1,464	732	70,411	5,868	2,934	2,709	1,355
8.....	42,380	3,532	1,766	1,630	815	78,403	6,534	3,267	3,016	1,508
Each add'l family member add	+ \$4,320	+ \$360	+ \$180	+ \$167	+ \$84	+ \$7,992	+ \$666	+ \$333	+ \$308	+ \$154
Alaska										
1.....	\$15,180	\$1,265	\$633	\$584	\$292	\$28,083	\$2,341	\$1,171	\$1,081	\$541
2.....	20,580	1,715	858	792	396	38,073	3,173	1,587	1,465	733
3.....	25,980	2,165	1,083	1,000	500	48,063	4,006	2,003	1,849	925
4.....	31,380	2,615	1,308	1,207	604	58,053	4,838	2,419	2,233	1,117
5.....	36,780	3,065	1,533	1,415	708	68,043	5,671	2,836	2,618	1,309
6.....	42,180	3,515	1,758	1,623	812	78,033	6,503	3,252	3,002	1,501
7.....	47,580	3,965	1,983	1,830	915	88,023	7,336	3,668	3,386	1,693
8.....	52,980	4,415	2,208	2,038	1,019	98,013	8,168	4,084	3,770	1,885
Each add'l family member add	+ \$5,400	+ \$450	+ \$225	+ \$208	+ \$104	+ \$9,990	+ \$833	+ \$417	+ \$385	+ \$193
Hawaii										
1.....	\$13,960	\$1,164	\$582	\$537	\$269	\$25,826	\$2,153	\$1,077	\$994	\$497
2.....	18,930	1,578	789	729	365	35,021	2,919	1,460	1,347	674
3.....	23,900	1,992	996	920	460	44,215	3,685	1,843	1,701	851
4.....	28,870	2,406	1,203	1,111	556	53,410	4,451	2,226	2,055	1,028
5.....	33,840	2,820	1,410	1,302	651	62,604	5,217	2,609	2,408	1,204
6.....	38,810	3,235	1,618	1,493	747	71,799	5,984	2,992	2,762	1,381
7.....	43,780	3,649	1,825	1,684	842	80,993	6,750	3,375	3,116	1,558
8.....	48,750	4,063	2,032	1,875	938	90,188	7,516	3,758	3,469	1,735
Each add'l family member add	+ \$4,970	+ \$415	+ \$208	+ \$192	+ \$96	+ \$9,195	+ \$767	+ \$384	+ \$354	+ \$177

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES
Supplemental Chart for Family Sizes Greater Than Eight

(Applicable from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019)

Household Size	Federal Poverty Guidelines- 100%					Reduced Price Meals - 185%				
	Annual	Monthly	Twice-Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Twice-Monthly	Bi-Weekly	Weekly
48 Contiguous States, D.C., Guam and Territories										
9.....	\$46,700	\$3,892	\$1,946	\$1,797	\$899	\$86,395	\$7,200	\$3,600	\$3,323	\$1,662
10.....	51,020	4,252	2,126	1,963	982	94,387	7,866	3,933	3,631	1,816
11.....	55,340	4,612	2,306	2,129	1,065	102,379	8,532	4,266	3,938	1,969
12.....	59,660	4,972	2,486	2,295	1,148	110,371	9,198	4,599	4,246	2,123
13.....	63,980	5,332	2,666	2,461	1,231	118,363	9,864	4,932	4,553	2,277
14.....	68,300	5,692	2,846	2,627	1,314	126,355	10,530	5,265	4,860	2,430
15.....	72,620	6,052	3,026	2,794	1,397	134,347	11,196	5,598	5,168	2,584
16.....	76,940	6,412	3,206	2,960	1,480	142,339	11,862	5,931	5,475	2,738
Each add'l family member add	+ \$4,320	+ \$360	+ \$180	+ \$167	+ \$84	+ \$7,992	+ \$666	+ \$333	+ \$308	+ \$154
Alaska										
9.....	\$58,380	\$4,865	\$2,433	\$2,246	\$1,123	\$108,003	\$9,001	\$4,501	\$4,154	\$2,077
10.....	63,780	5,315	2,658	2,454	1,227	117,993	9,833	4,917	4,539	2,270
11.....	69,180	5,765	2,883	2,661	1,331	127,983	10,666	5,333	4,923	2,462
12.....	74,580	6,215	3,108	2,869	1,435	137,973	11,498	5,749	5,307	2,654
13.....	79,980	6,665	3,333	3,077	1,539	147,963	12,331	6,166	5,691	2,846
14.....	85,380	7,115	3,558	3,284	1,642	157,953	13,163	6,582	6,076	3,038
15.....	90,780	7,565	3,783	3,492	1,746	167,943	13,996	6,998	6,460	3,230
16.....	96,180	8,015	4,008	3,700	1,850	177,933	14,828	7,414	6,844	3,422
Each add'l family member add	+ \$5,400	+ \$450	+ \$225	+ \$208	+ \$104	+ \$9,990	+ \$833	+ \$417	+ \$385	+ \$193
Hawaii										
9.....	\$53,720	\$4,477	\$2,239	\$2,067	\$1,034	\$99,382	\$8,282	\$4,141	\$3,823	\$1,912
10.....	58,690	4,891	2,446	2,258	1,129	108,577	9,049	4,525	4,177	2,089
11.....	63,660	5,305	2,653	2,449	1,225	117,771	9,815	4,908	4,530	2,265
12.....	68,630	5,720	2,860	2,640	1,320	126,966	10,581	5,291	4,884	2,442
13.....	73,600	6,134	3,067	2,831	1,416	136,160	11,347	5,674	5,237	2,619
14.....	78,570	6,548	3,274	3,022	1,511	145,355	12,113	6,057	5,591	2,796
15.....	83,540	6,962	3,481	3,214	1,607	154,549	12,880	6,440	5,945	2,973
16.....	88,510	7,376	3,688	3,405	1,703	163,744	13,646	6,823	6,298	3,149
Each add'l family member add	+ \$4,970	+ \$415	+ \$208	+ \$192	+ \$96	+ \$9,195	+ \$767	+ \$384	+ \$354	+ \$177

The table of this Notice contains the income limits by household size for the 48 contiguous States, the District of Columbia, and all United States Territories, including Guam. Separate tables for Alaska and Hawaii have been included for the convenience of the State agencies because the poverty guidelines for Alaska and Hawaii are higher than for the 48 contiguous States.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 1786

Dated: March 8, 2018.

Brandon Lipps
Administrator
Food and Nutrition Service, USDA

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