

 WIC Program	WIC Program Manual	
	Section 1134	
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Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines		

POLICY

1. Staff are required to use the federal income guidelines for determining income eligibility. The maximum income eligibility allowed is 185% of poverty as established by the United States Department of Agriculture.
2. Refer to the United States Department of Agriculture/New York State WIC Income Eligibility Guidelines in this section to determine Annual, Monthly, Twice-Monthly, Bi-Weekly, and Weekly income levels of eligibility.

REGULATIONS

Income Eligibility Guidelines, 7 CFR §246.7(d)(1) – The State agency may prescribe income guidelines either equaling the income guidelines established under section 9 of the National School Lunch Act for reduced-price school meals or identical to State or local guidelines for free or reduced-price health care.

If the State agency uses State or local free or reduced-price health care income guidelines, it will ensure that the definitions of income (see [paragraph \(d\)\(2\)\(ii\)](#) of this section), family (see [§ 246.2](#)) and allowable exclusions from income (see [paragraph \(d\)\(2\)\(iv\)](#) of this section) are used uniformly to determine an applicant's income eligibility. This ensures that households with a gross income in excess of 185 percent of the Federal income guidelines (see [paragraph \(d\)\(1\)](#) of this section) are not eligible for Program benefits. The exception to this requirement is persons who are also income eligible under other programs (see [paragraph \(d\)\(2\)\(vi\)](#) of this section).

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) WIC Policy Memorandum #2023-4, Publication of the 2023-2024 Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Income Eligibility Guidelines – This memorandum transmits the 2023-2024 Income Eligibility Guidelines (IEGs) for the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) that were published in the Federal Register on February 21, 2023, at 88 FR 10495. The income limit is 185% 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.

DEFINITIONS

Refer to Acronyms and Definitions in Section 1011.

PROCEDURE

LA/VMA Policy Required ☐ Yes ☒ No

1. All local agencies must use the following income eligibility guidelines issued by the USDA annually and based on 185% poverty levels:

FEDERAL WIC INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

Effective through June 30, 2024

Gross Income

<i>Household Size</i>	<i>Annual</i>	<i>Monthly</i>	<i>Twice-Monthly</i>	<i>Bi-Weekly</i>	<i>Weekly</i>
1	\$26,973	\$2,248	\$1,124	\$1,038	\$519
2	36,482	3,041	1,521	1,404	702
3	45,991	3,833	1,917	1,769	885
4	55,500	4,625	2,313	2,135	1,068
5	65,009	5,418	2,709	2,501	1,251
6	74,518	6,210	3,105	2,867	1,434
7	84,027	7,003	3,502	3,232	1,616
8	93,536	7,795	3,898	3,598	1,799
<i>For each additional member, add:</i>	+\$9,509	+\$793	+\$397	+\$366	+\$183

GUIDANCE

Policy Supplement available ☐ Yes ☒ No

RESOURCES

WIC Program Manual Sections and Policy Supplements

- #1130: Income Eligibility
- #1133: Income Eligibility for Military Families