



Office of Children and Family Services

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Informational Letter

Transmittal:	23-OCFS-INF-06
To:	Local Departments of Social Services Commissioners
Issuing Division/Office:	Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Development
Date:	June 9, 2023
Subject:	2023 Income Eligibility Levels
Suggested Distribution:	Local Departments of Social Services Directors Adoption Supervisors/Staff Foster Care Supervisors/Staff Day Care Subsidy Supervisors Planning Coordinators Accounting Supervisors WMS Coordinators
Contact Person(s):	Please see section IV.
Attachments:	None

Filing References

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	NYS Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
22-OCFS-INF-08		18 NYCRR 404.5(b)	42 U.S.C. § 9902(2); 88 Fed. Reg. 3424 (Jan. 19, 2023)		

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Informational Letter (INF) is to transmit to the local departments of social services (LDSSs) the 2023 federal poverty guidelines on annual income and state median income (SMI) to be used in determining eligibility for services.

II. Background

2023 Income Standards

State income standards are established using [poverty guidelines](#)¹ that are updated periodically in the *Federal Register* [[88 Fed. Reg. 3424](#)] by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, under the authority of [42 U.S.C. § 9902\(2\)](#). LDSS eligibility levels are recorded in Appendix F of the LDSS Child

¹ <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-01-19/pdf/2023-00885.pdf>

and Family Services Plan. This information is used to update each LDSS's Welfare Management System services matrix.

The income threshold for child care assistance, funded by the Child Care Block Grant (CCBG) and used for determining initial eligibility and continuing eligibility at redetermination for child care assistance, is based on a percentage of the state income standards.

State Median Income

For child care assistance eligibility, the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014 requires that a family's income not exceed 85% of the state median income (SMI). As such, a family will be found ineligible or no longer eligible for child care assistance, funded by the CCBG, if their income exceeds this amount at determination or during the eligibility period. SMI is defined in 18 NYCRR Part 415.1(ae) as the most recent SMI data published by the U.S. Census Bureau for a family of the same size, updated for a family size of four and adjusted for family size. Using the SMI for a family of four, the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) has calculated the median income for a family size of one to 20 utilizing the recommended formula provided by the Administration for Children and Families for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

III. Program Implications

The following are the annual income standards to be used, effective June 1, 2023, to determine eligibility for services between June 1, 2023, and May 31, 2024.

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Income Standard</u>
1	\$14,580
2	\$19,720
3	\$24,860
4	\$30,000
5	\$35,140
6	\$40,280
7	\$45,420
8	\$50,560

For families/households with more than eight persons, add \$5,140 to the annual income for each additional person.

When determining eligibility for a service, apply the appropriate percentage for that service to the above income standards. For example, if a family of three is applying for an LDSS service and has an annual income below 200% of the income standard, staff would multiply that income standard for a family of three by 200% ($\$24,860 \times 2.00 = \$49,720$) to determine the annual income standard below which the family must be for eligibility for that size family for that service.

Child Care Assistance

The following are the annual income standards up to 300% New York State Income Standard (SIS) to be used, effective June 1, 2023, to determine eligibility for child care assistance funded by the CCBG between June 1, 2023, and May 31, 2024.

Family Size	New York State Income Standard (SIS)	300% SIS
1	\$14,580	\$43,740
2	\$19,720	\$59,160
3	\$24,860	\$74,580
4	\$30,000	\$90,000
5	\$35,140	\$105,420
6	\$40,280	\$120,840
7	\$45,420	\$136,260
8	\$50,560	\$151,680
9	\$55,700	\$167,100
10	\$60,840	\$182,520
11	\$65,980	\$197,940
12	\$71,120	\$213,360
13	\$76,260	\$228,780
14	\$81,400	\$244,200
15	\$86,540	\$259,620
16	\$91,680	\$275,040
17	\$96,820	\$290,460
18	\$101,960	\$305,880
19	\$107,100	\$321,300
20	\$112,240	\$336,720
Each Additional Person	\$5,140	\$15,420

The SMI and 85% of the SMI levels for each family size, valid June 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024, are shown below.

Family Size	State Median Income (SMI) for New York	85% SMI for New York
1	\$60,717.80	\$51,610.13
2	\$79,400.20	\$67,490.17
3	\$98,082.60	\$83,370.21
4	\$116,765.00	\$99,250.25
5	\$135,447.40	\$115,130.29
6	\$154,129.80	\$131,010.33

7	\$157,632.75	\$133,987.84
8	\$161,135.70	\$136,965.35
9	\$164,638.65	\$139,942.85
10	\$168,141.60	\$142,920.36
11	\$171,644.55	\$145,897.87
12	\$175,147.50	\$148,875.38
13	\$178,650.45	\$151,852.88
14	\$182,153.40	\$154,830.39
15	\$185,656.35	\$157,807.90
16	\$189,159.30	\$160,785.41
17	\$192,662.25	\$163,762.91
18	\$196,165.20	\$166,740.42
19	\$199,668.15	\$169,717.93
20	\$203,171.10	\$172,695.44

IV. Contact

Any questions concerning this release should be directed to the appropriate Division of Child Welfare and Community Services regional office, or to the Division of Child Care Services:

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/s/ Thomas R. Brooks, Esq.

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