



Office of Children and Family Services

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Informational Letter

Transmittal:	24-OCFS-INF-05
To:	Local Departments of Social Services Commissioners
Issuing Division/Office:	Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Development Division of Child Care Services
Date:	May 31, 2024
Subject:	2024 Income Eligibility Levels
Suggested Distribution:	Local Departments of Social Services Directors Adoption Supervisors/Staff Foster Care Supervisors/Staff Child Care Assistance Supervisors Planning Coordinators Accounting Supervisors Welfare Management System 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.
23-OCFS-INF-06		18 NYCRR 404.5(b), 415.1, 415.2	42 U.S.C. § 9902(2); 89 Fed. Reg. 2961 (Jan. 17, 2024)		

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Informational Letter (INF) is to transmit to the local departments of social services (LDSSs) the 2024 federal poverty guidelines on annual income and state median income (SMI) to be used in determining eligibility for services.

II. Background

2024 Income Standards

State income standards are established using [poverty guidelines](#)¹ that are updated periodically in the *Federal Register* by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, under the authority of [42](#)

¹ "Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines." [Federal Register 89: 11 \(January 17, 2024\), p. 2961.](#)

[U.S.C. § 9902\(2\)](#). LDSS eligibility levels are recorded in Appendix F of the LDSS Child and Family Services Plan. This information is used to update each LDSS's Welfare Management System services matrix.

Income Thresholds for Child Care Assistance

Effective October 1, 2023, the income eligibility threshold for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) was set at 85% of the SMI, consistent with the maximum allowed under the federal Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014. As such, families will be found ineligible or no longer eligible for child care assistance if their income exceeds this amount at determination or during the eligibility period. SMI is defined in 18 NYCRR Section 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).

Additionally, when an LDSS projects that allocated CCAP funds will be insufficient to open all eligible non-guaranteed cases, the LDSS must prioritize families as outlined in 18 NYCRR 415.2(d)(1)(i), which includes as the second priority population families with very low income. Very low income is defined in 415.2(d)(1)(i)(b) as an income level up to 300% of the state income standard, provided that the family income does not exceed 85% of the SMI.

III. Program Implications

Child Welfare Services

The following are the annual income standards to be used, effective June 1, 2024, to determine eligibility for child welfare services between June 1, 2024, and May 31, 2025.

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Income Standard</u>
1	\$15,060
2	\$20,440
3	\$25,820
4	\$31,200
5	\$36,580
6	\$41,960
7	\$47,340
8	\$52,720

For families/households with more than eight persons, add \$5,380 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 that has an income standard of below 200%, staff would multiply the income standard for a family of three by 200% ($\$25,820 \times 2.00 = \$51,640$) to determine the maximum annual income for the family to be eligible for that service.

Child Care Assistance

The following are the SMI and 85% of the SMI levels for each family size, used to determine eligibility for child care assistance, valid June 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025.

Family Size	State Median Income (SMI) for New York	85% SMI for New York
1	\$ 66,457.04	\$ 56,488.48
2	\$ 86,905.36	\$ 73,869.56
3	\$ 107,353.68	\$ 91,250.63
4	\$ 127,802.00	\$ 108,631.70
5	\$ 148,250.32	\$ 126,012.77
6	\$ 168,698.64	\$ 143,393.84
7	\$ 172,532.70	\$ 146,652.80
8	\$ 176,366.76	\$ 149,911.75
9	\$ 180,200.82	\$ 153,170.70
10	\$ 184,034.88	\$ 156,429.65
11	\$ 187,868.94	\$ 159,688.60
12	\$ 191,703.00	\$ 162,947.55
13	\$ 195,537.06	\$ 166,206.50
14	\$ 199,371.12	\$ 169,465.45
15	\$ 203,205.18	\$ 172,724.40
16	\$ 207,039.24	\$ 175,983.35
17	\$ 210,873.30	\$ 179,242.31
18	\$ 214,707.36	\$ 182,501.26
19	\$ 218,541.42	\$ 185,760.21
20	\$ 222,375.48	\$ 189,019.16

The following are the annual income standards up to 300% of the New York State Income Standard (SIS) to be used when prioritizing very low income cases funded under the NYSCCBG when the district projects that there are insufficient funds to open all eligible cases, effective June 1, 2024. The following income standards are to be used between June 1, 2024, and May 31, 2025.

Family Size	New York State Income Standard (SIS)	300% SIS
1	\$15,060	\$45,180
2	\$20,440	\$61,320

3	\$25,820	\$77,460
4	\$31,200	\$93,600
5	\$36,580	\$109,740
6	\$41,960	\$125,880
7	\$47,340	\$142,020
8	\$52,720	\$158,160
9	\$58,100	\$174,300
10	\$63,480	\$190,440
11	\$68,860	\$206,580
12	\$74,240	\$222,720
13	\$79,620	\$238,860
14	\$85,000	\$255,000
15	\$90,380	\$271,140
16	\$95,760	\$287,280
17	\$101,140	\$303,420
18	\$106,520	\$319,560
19	\$111,900	\$335,700
20	\$117,280	\$351,840
Each Additional Person	\$5,380	\$16,140

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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