



Office of Children and Family Services

Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor

52 WASHINGTON STREET
RENSELAER, NY 12144

Sheila J. Poole
Commissioner

Informational Letter

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| Transmittal: | 20-OCFS-INF-07 | | | | |
| To: | Commissioners of Social Services | | | | |
| Issuing Division/Office: | Strategic Planning and Policy Development | | | | |
| Date: | February 25, 2020 | | | | |
| Subject: | 2020 Income Standards for the Child and Family Services Plan | | | | |
| Suggested Distribution: | Directors of Social Services Adoption Supervisors/Staff Foster Care Supervisors/Staff Day Care Subsidy Supervisors Planning Coordinators Accounting Supervisors WMS Coordinators | | | | |
| Contact Person(s): | Any questions concerning this release should be directed to the appropriate Division of Child Welfare and Community Services regional office: Buffalo Regional Office – Amanda Darling (716) 847-3145 Amanda.Darling@ocfs.ny.gov Rochester Regional Office – Chris Bruno (585) 238-8201 Christopher.Bruno@ocfs.ny.gov Syracuse Regional Office – Sara Simon (315) 423-1200 Sara.Simon@ocfs.ny.gov Albany Regional Office – John Lockwood (518) 486-7078 John.Lockwood@ocfs.ny.gov Westchester Regional Office – Thalia Wright (845) 708-2498 Thalia.Wright@ocfs.ny.gov New York City Regional Office – Ronni Fuchs (212) 383-1788 Ronni.Fuchs@ocfs.ny.gov Native American Services – Heather LaForme (716) 847-3123 Heather.LaForme@ocfs.ny.gov | | | | |
| Attachments: | None | | | | |
| Previous ADMs/INFs | Releases Cancelled | NYS Regs. | Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref. | Manual Ref. | Misc. Ref. |
| 19-OCFS-INF-02 | | 18 NYCRR 404.5(b) | 42 U.S.C. § 9902(2); 85 Fed. Reg. 3060 (Jan. 17, 2020) | | |

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Informational Letter (INF) is to transmit to the local departments of social services (LDSSs) the 2020 federal poverty guidelines on annual income to be used in determining eligibility for services.

II. Background

State income standards are established using poverty guidelines that are updated periodically in the *Federal Register* [85 Fed. Reg. 3060] 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 and Family Services Plan. This information is used to update each LDSS’s Welfare Management System services matrix.

III. Program Implications

The following are the annual income standards to be used, effective June 1, 2020, to determine eligibility for services between June 1, 2020, and May 31, 2021.

| <u>Family Size</u> | <u>Income Standards</u> |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | \$12,760 |
| 2 | \$17,240 |
| 3 | \$21,720 |
| 4 | \$26,200 |
| 5 | \$30,680 |
| 6 | \$35,160 |
| 7 | \$39,640 |
| 8 | \$44,120 |

For families/households with more than eight persons, add \$4,480 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 a service that an LDSS provides when a family has an annual income below 200 percent of the income standard, staff would multiply the income standard for a family of three by 200 percent ($\$21,720 \times 2.00 = \$43,440$), to determine the annual income standard the family must be below for a determination of eligibility for that size family for that service.

/S/ Thomas R. Brooks

Issued By:

Name: Thomas R. Brooks

Title: Deputy Commissioner

Division/Office: Strategic Planning and Policy Development