
DWD Memorandum 2025-13: 2026 Economically Disadvantaged Criteria (EDC)

To: Indiana's Workforce System
From: Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD)
Date: May 27, 2026

PURPOSE

This memo issues the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) 2026 Economically Disadvantaged Criteria (EDC). The criteria were developed using the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) 2026 Poverty Guidelines and the Department of Labor (DOL) 2026 Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL). These criteria are used to identify disadvantaged adults and youths, as WIOA defines these individuals as those who received an income or are members of a family that received a total family income that, in relation to family size, does not exceed the higher of the poverty line or 70 percent of the LLSIL.¹

RESCISSION

DWD Memorandum 2024-13: *2025 Economically Disadvantaged Criteria (EDC)*

REFERENCES

- WIOA Sec. 127 (b)(2)(C) and WIOA Sec. 132 (b)(1)(B)(v)(IV)
- WIOA 2026 Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL), Federal Register / VOL. 91, No. 77/ Wednesday, April 22, 2026 / Notices 21511²
- Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines, Federal Register / Vol. 91, No. 10 / Thursday, January 15, 2026 / Notices 1797³
- Revised Delineations of Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Micropolitan Statistical Areas, and Combined Statistical Areas, and Guidance on Uses of the Delineations of These Areas, OMB Bulletin No. 23-01, July 21, 2023⁴

CONTENT

DWD has developed and published the 2026 EDC as **Attachment A: 2026 ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED CRITERIA INCLUDING THE POVERTY GUIDELINES & 70% OF THE LOWER LIVING STANDARD INCOME LEVEL (LLSIL)**

¹ WIOA Sec. 127 (b)(2)(C) and WIOA Sec. 132 (b)(1)(B)(v)(IV).

² <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2026-04-22/pdf/2026-07771.pdf>.

³ <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2026-01-15/pdf/2026-00755.pdf>.

⁴ <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/OMB-Bulletin-23-01.pdf>.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Questions regarding the content of this publication should be directed to policy@dwd.in.gov.

ATTACHMENT A
2026 ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED CRITERIA INCLUDING
THE POVERTY GUIDELINES & 70% OF THE LOWER LIVING
STANDARD INCOME LEVEL (LLSIL)

2026 Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan Counties

The following counties are metropolitan counties. All other counties are non-metropolitan.

Allen County	Harrison County	Posey County
Bartholomew County	Hendricks County	Shelby County
Benton County	Howard County	St. Joseph County
Boone County	Jasper County	Sullivan County
Brown County	Johnson County	Tippecanoe County
Carroll County	Lake County	Tipton County
Clark County	LaPorte County	Vanderburgh County
Clay County	Madison County	Vermillion County
Dearborn County	Marion County	Vigo County
Delaware County	Monroe County	Warren County
Elkhart County	Morgan County	Warrick County
Floyd County	Newton County	Washington County
Franklin County	Ohio County	Wells County
Hamilton County	Owen County	Whitley County
Hancock County	Porter County	

2026 Poverty Guidelines

Effective January 15, 2026

Family Size	Poverty Guideline
1	\$15,960
2	\$21,640
3	\$27,320
4	\$33,000
5	\$38,680
6	\$44,360
Each Additional Person	\$5,680

**Economically Disadvantaged Criteria:
Shows the Higher of the 2026 Poverty Guidelines or 70% 2026 LLSIL**

All Indiana Counties except Dearborn, Franklin, Jasper, Lake, Newton, Ohio, and Porter

Family Size	Metropolitan	Non-Metropolitan
1	\$15,960*	\$15,960*
2	\$21,640*	\$21,640*
3	\$28,122	\$27,320*
4	\$34,716	\$33,274
5	\$40,968	\$39,276
6	\$47,920	\$45,930
Each Additional Person	\$6,952	\$6,654

* Indicates that level comes from the Poverty Guidelines.

Northwestern Indiana (Jasper, Lake, Newton, and Porter Counties)

Family Size	Income Level
1	\$15,960*
2	\$21,640*
3	\$28,554
4	\$35,252
5	\$41,604
6	\$48,657
Each Additional Person	\$7,053

* Indicates that level comes from the Poverty Guidelines.

Southeastern Indiana (Dearborn, Franklin, and Ohio Counties)

Family Size	Income Level
1	\$15,960*
2	\$21,640*
3	\$27,320*
4	\$33,000*
5	\$38,680*
6	\$44,360*
Each Additional Person	\$6,412

* Indicates that level comes from the Poverty Guidelines.

70% of Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL)

All Indiana Counties Except Dearborn, Franklin, Jasper, Lake, Newton, Ohio, and Porter.

Family Size	Metropolitan	Non-Metropolitan
1	\$12,500	\$11,991
2	\$20,489	\$19,632
3	\$28,122	\$26,955
4	\$34,716	\$33,274
5	\$40,968	\$39,276
6	\$47,920	\$45,930
Each Additional Person	\$6,952	\$6,654

Northwestern Indiana (Jasper, Lake, Newton, and Porter Counties)

Family Size	Income Level
1	\$12,692
2	\$20,808
3	\$28,554
4	\$35,252
5	\$41,604
6	\$48,657
Each Additional Person	\$7,053

Southeastern Indiana (Dearborn, Franklin, and Ohio Counties)

Family Size	Income Level
1	\$11,547
2	\$18,927
3	\$25,982
4	\$32,066
5	\$37,843
6	\$44,255
Each Additional Person	\$6,412

NOTE: For family sizes greater than six, subtract the LLSIL of a family of five from a family of six. Use the difference between a family of five and six as the amount you will add to each income after a family of six.