DATE: September 1, 2017

TO: South Bay One-Stop Business & Career Centers, Youth Programs, and Service Providers

SUBJECT: DIRECTIVE NO. 17-01
70 PERCENT LLSIL AND POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR 2017

PURPOSE
The attached directive WSD17-04 dated August 25, 2017 established guidance and procedures for the 70 Percent Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) for 2017 published by the Secretary of Labor in the Federal Register on May 23, 2017. This policy also issues the 2017 poverty guidelines published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in the Federal Register on January 31, 2017. This policy applies to all Local Workforce Development Areas (Local Areas) and is effective on their dates of publication in the Federal Register, May 23, 2017, and January 31, 2017, respectively.

SCOPE
This directive applies to all South Bay One-Stop Business Career Centers, Youth Programs and Services Provider(s).

EFFECTIVE DATE
This directive is effective upon release.

STATE-IMPOSED REQUIREMENTS
The attached directive contains one state-imposed requirement. These requirements are indicated by bold, italic type.

ACTION
Notify all affected staff of the changes to the LLSIL and poverty guidelines in the attached directive.

FILING INSTRUCTIONS
This directive supersedes SBWIB Directive 16-02, dated July 25, 2016. Retain this directive until further notice.

INQUIRIES
If you have any questions regarding this directive, please contact the Compliance Manager at (310) 970-7730.

Attachment:

Jan Vogel
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
The SBWIB is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.
70 PERCENT LLSIL AND POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR 2017

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This policy provides the guidance and establishes the procedures regarding the 70 Percent Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) for 2017 published by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) in the Federal Register on May 23, 2017. This policy also issues the 2017 poverty guidelines published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in the Federal Register on January 31, 2017. This policy applies to all Local Workforce Development Areas (Local Areas) and is effective on their dates of publication in the Federal Register, May 23, 2017, and January 31, 2017, respectively.

This policy contains two state-imposed requirements, which are in bold, italic type.

This Directive finalizes Workforce Services Draft Directive 70 Percent LLSIL and Poverty Guidelines for 2017 (WSDD-169), issued for comment on July 11, 2017. The Workforce Development Community submitted no comments during the draft comment period.

This policy supersedes Workforce Services Directive 70 Percent LLSIL and Poverty Guidelines for 2016 (WSD16-02), dated July 20, 2016. Retain this Directive until further notice.

REFERENCES

- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Sections 3(36), 127(b)(2)(C), 132(b)(1)(B)(v)(IV), and 134 (d)(1)(A)(x)
- Federal Register, Volume 82, Number 98, “WIOA; LLSIL” (May 23, 2017)
- Federal Register, Volume 82, Number 19, “Annual Update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines” (January 31, 2017)
BACKGROUND

The WIOA Section 3(36)(A) sets the critical Local Areas use in determining whether an individual is a low-income individual. These criteria include two sets of data; the poverty guidelines, as published by HHS, and 70 percent of the LLSIL, as determined by the Secretary of Labor. The Local Areas are to use the higher of these two measures to establish low-income status for eligibility purposes of WIOA Title I programs. The WIOA requires annual revisions to both sets of data. All Local Areas use the same poverty guidelines. However, the LLSIL identifies maximum qualifying income levels for residents in either of two broad geographic designations: metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas. Metropolitan income levels apply to residents living within Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) as defined by the Office of Management and Budget. Non-Metropolitan income levels apply to places with populations under 50,000. In addition to the broad metropolitan and non-metropolitan designations, the DOL identifies three MSAs in California that have unique LLSILs: the San Diego MSA, the Los Angeles/Riverside/Orange County MSA, and the San Francisco/Oakland/San Jose MSA.

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

1. Select the appropriate table for use by your Local Area from the five tables in the attachment (In those instances where a Local Area encompasses both metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas, the state has designated the higher of the LLSIL figures for use within the entire Local Area).

2. Use the higher of either the LLSIL or the poverty guidelines for the appropriate family size to determine low-income status. A comparison of the applicant’s actual family income during the six-month income determination period within the six-month figures on the charts enables the reviewer to immediately determine income status.

3. Local Workforce Development Boards must set the criteria for determining whether employment leads to self-sufficiency. At a minimum, such criteria must provide that self-sufficiency means employment that pays at least 100 percent of the LLSIL established for a Local Area.

ACTION

Notify all affected staff of the changes to the LLSIL and poverty guidelines in this Directive.
INQUIRIES

If you have any questions, contact your assigned Regional Advisor at 916-654-7799.

/S/ JAIME L. GUTIERREZ, Chief
Central Office Workforce Services Division

The attachment is available on the internet:

70 Percent of LLSIL and Poverty Guidelines for 2017