

Workforce Southwest Washington Policies and Procedures

# ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR ALL (EcSA) 200% ABOVE POVERTY LEVEL POLICY #: 3039

Date of Original Policy: 7/07/2023

## PURPOSE:

To ensure Workforce Southwest Washington (WSW) policy compliance set forth in Washington Information Notice (WIN) <u>0135</u> and (WIN) <u>0129 Change 2</u> which allows for Federal and State Economic Security for All (EcSA) eligibility for those household's whose income is above 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Economic Security for All (EcSA) is a poverty reduction model that coordinates existing programs to increase their collective ability to support low-income Washingtonians in their pursuit of equity, dignity, and sustained self-sufficiency.

This document has been created to establish a local policy to expanded EcSA eligibility criteria for those household's whose income is above 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and enroll participants who meet factors that make an participant likely to fall into poverty.

Note: To avoid ambiguity, programs funded by the Governor's WIOA statewide activities funds will be called Federal EcSA, while those funded by state general funds will be called State EcSA.

### POLICY:

WSW designated portions of Federal and State EcSA enrollments to serve individuals whose documentation shows their household income in excess of 200% of the FPL but are at risk of falling below 200% of the FPL.

- a. Individuals must meet basic eligibility requirements of one of the WIOA Title IB Formula Programs; and
- Be below self-sufficiency wage as defined by the UW Self-Sufficiency calculator;
  OR
- c. Are at risk of falling into poverty based on:
  - i. Recent or pending lay-off or upcoming loss of employment
  - ii. Change or increase in family size
  - iii. Loss of housing
  - iv. Previously incarcerated or justice involved individuals
  - v. End of unemployment insurance payments or other public assistance
  - vi. Status as a recent victim of domestic violence or stalking

Once enrolled, EcSA participants over 200% of the FPL must be served in accordance with all the same rules and polices that govern individuals enrolled below 200% of the FPL. For State EcSA participants over 200% FPL, see below "state EcSA" for specific guidelines. Funding expended for participants over 200% of the FPL may not exceed

\$5,000 spent on incentives, support services, and training costs combined for any single participant.

Co-enrollment into formula and/or discretionary grants is recommended but not required. All eligibility criteria are required to be met for all programs of enrollment.

Documentation requirements to serve individuals over the 200% of the FPL includes the following (where applicable):

- a. Layoff letter
- b. Documentation showing the end of benefits.
- c. Eviction notice
- d. Self-attestation. While allowable, self-attestation is a last resort option when no other documentation is available. Self-attestation as documentation requires a detailed case note explaining the circumstances that place the participants at risk and follows local policy <a href="#">TA Memo 21</a>, <a href="#">Rev 2 Case Noting</a>.

## Federal EcSA

- The WSW subrecipient contracted to implement and serve Federal EcSA eligible participants are not required to serve those above the 200% FPL.
- WSW designated 15% of Federal EcSA enrollments to serve individuals whose documentation shows their household income in excess of 200% of the FPL but are at risk of falling below 200% of the FPL.

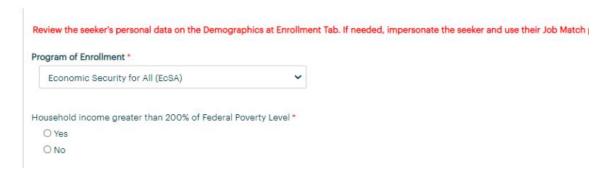
#### State EcSA

- The WSW subrecipient contracted to implement and serve State EcSA eligible participants are required to serve those above 200% FPL.
- As designated in subrecipient's contract State EcSA PY23 funds are to serve individuals whose documentation shows their household income in excess of 200% of the FPL but are at risk of falling below 200% of the FPL.
- State EcSA funded support services are now required to add a Type of Resource Provide into statewide MIS system for tracking purposes (see <u>WIN 0129</u> <u>Change2</u>, Attachment B, p. 13)

## PROCEDURES:

Enrollment guidance and procedures are available in <u>WIN 0135</u>, <u>Attachment A</u> and <u>WIN 0129 Change 2</u>, <u>Attachment B</u>.

When enrolling a participant into either State or Federal EcSA, Select the program "Economic Security for All," and then answer the question that populates "Household income greater than 200% of the Federal Poverty Level" with either a yes or no, depending on their income status.



Use of the State and Federal EcSA funds, monitoring, and performance measures follow WSW statement of work and contracted obligations.

# REFERENCES/RESOURCES:

TA Memo 21, Rev 2 Case Noting WIN 0135 WIN 0129 Change 2

# **WEBSITE:**

http://workforcesw.org/providers#OperationsPolicies

# **INQUIRIES:**

Please contact Mando Antonino <u>mantonino@workforcesw.org</u> (360) 567-3185 for questions.