Measure of Economic Self-Sufficiency

Workforce Investment Act Policies and Procedures

POLICY #: 406

Date of Original Policy: March 25, 2009
Effective Date: March 25, 2009

BACKGROUND:
A goal of the Spokane Area Workforce Development Council and the Workforce Investment Act is to provide individuals with the training and employment opportunities necessary to attain and retain economic self-sufficiency. The Workforce Investment Act authorizes local and state workforce investment boards to define and develop the criteria for measuring economic self-sufficiency.

The purpose of this policy is to adopt the Self-Sufficiency Standard for Washington as the Spokane Area Workforce Development Council’s local criteria to measure economic self-sufficiency.

DEFINITIONS:
The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Washington measures how much income is needed, for a family of a given composition living in a given place, to adequately meet its basic needs without public or private assistance.

POLICY:
The Self-Sufficiency Calculator, based on the Self-Sufficiency Standard for Washington, will be utilized within the Spokane Area Workforce Development system in numerous ways including:

1. As a Core and Intensive Service in the WorkSource One-Stop system to facilitate counseling and career-planning to identify long-term employment and training options that lead to economic self-sufficiency.

2. As an assessment tool for WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker clients that informs the development of Individual Employment Plans leading to economic self-sufficiency. A printout of the Self-Sufficiency Calculator is required for all WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker client files within 30 days of enrollment.

3. A printout of the Self-Sufficiency Calculator is also required for all WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker clients employed at exit as a tool to measure the individual’s success at moving toward economic self-sufficiency.

4. As an optional tool for WIA Youth clients that aids in the development of life planning skills, educational enhancements, and career development.
Additionally the home page link - “Related Links/Resources” provides valuable resources to assist customers to reach self sufficiency and beyond.

**ATTACHMENTS:**
HowToReadForYouth  
Self Sufficiency Calculator Budget Worksheet  
Spanish – Self Sufficiency Calculator Budget Worksheet

**REFERENCE:**
The Self-Sufficiency Standard for Washington, Diana Pearce, Ph.D.  
20 CFR 663.230  
20 CFR 663.730  
Workforce Investment Act 134 (d)(3)(A)(ii)  
www.thecalculator.org

**SUPERSEDES:**
N/A

**DIRECT INQUIRES TO:**
(As referenced in SAWDC Staff Composition Policy #100)

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