

Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act: Minimum Self-Sufficiency Wage Levels

Overview

The Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) helps people become self-sufficient. This means being able to support themselves without needing extra help. Adults, dislocated workers, and youth can get help with finding jobs, training for new skills, and getting support services if they qualify. This assistance is available to those who need it to improve their employment opportunities and succeed in their careers. If someone is part of WIOA and has a job, but their wages are not enough to support themselves, they might still qualify for WIOA training services.

To decide if someone gets help, the US Department of Labor has guidelines that identify Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL). These guidelines set the minimum amount of money needed to be considered self-sufficient in different areas.

Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) can choose to set wage levels higher than 100 percent LLSIL if they think it's necessary for their area. The goal is to help people earn enough to take care of themselves and become independent.

Department of Labor's Lower Living Standard Income Levels (LLSIL)

The DOL 100 percent LLSIL guidelines for determining minimum self-sufficiency wages were issued in the Federal Register and became effective May 13, 2025.

[US Department of Labor's \(DOL\) 100 percent Lower Living Standard Income Level \(LLSIL\) guidelines](#)

Minimum Self-Sufficiency Wage Levels

Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington Metropolitan Statistical Area

City of Dallas, Balance of Dallas County, City of Fort Worth, Balance of Tarrant County (Dallas–Fort Worth MSA) and Collin County

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Add for above 8
Income	\$16,892.00	\$27,682.00	\$37,996.00	\$46,896.00	\$55,351.00	\$64,725.00	\$74,099.00	\$83,473.00	\$9,374.00

Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land Metropolitan Statistical Area

Cities of Houston, The Woodlands, and Sugar Land

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Add for above 8
Income	16,276.00	\$26,665.00	\$36,597.00	\$45,173.00	\$53,312.00	\$62,347.00	\$71,382.00	\$80,417.00	\$9,035.00

South Metro

All Other Areas

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Add for above 8
Income	\$17,436.00	\$28,569.00	\$39,212.00	\$48,411.00	\$57,136.00	\$66,824.00	\$76,512.00	\$86,200.00	\$9,688.00

South Non-metro

South Plains, Middle Rio Grande, and Deep East Texas workforce areas

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Add for above 8
Income	\$16,780.00	\$27,488.00	\$37,728.00	\$46,573.00	\$54,960.00	\$64,275.00	\$73,590.00	\$82,905.00	\$9,315.00