



ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR ALL

Policy Number: 203D, Revision 3
Effective Date: July 1, 2023
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I. PURPOSE:

To ensure South Central Workforce (SCW) policy compliance set forth in Washington State Policy 7000 for State Economic Security for All (EcSA) and WorkSource System Policy 5625 for Federal EcSA, which allows eligibility for those whose household income is above 200% of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL).

II. 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.

At the direction of the Governor's Office, EcSA was expanded to include individuals whose household income is above 200% of the FPL, but who are at risk of dropping below.

This document has been prepared to codify developments and expansions in the EcSA program and address questions that have arisen through the course of the EcSA service provision.

III. POLICY:

SCW designated 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.

To be eligible for State EcSA – Above 200% of FPL, applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Be from households that are above 200% of the FPL at the time of program enrollment;
and
2. Meet basic eligibility requirements for any of the three WIOA Title I-B formula programs, excluding requirements to register for Selective Service; and
3. Be below self-sufficiency wage as defined by the UW Self-Sufficiency calculator;
OR
4. Are at risk of falling into poverty based on:
 - a. Recent or pending layoff or upcoming loss of employment
 - b. Change or increase in family size
 - c. Single parent
 - d. Loss of housing
 - e. Lacks educational or occupational skills
 - f. Previously incarcerated or justice-involved individuals
 - g. End of unemployment insurance payments or other public assistance
 - h. Status as a recent victim of domestic violence or stalking
 - i. Exceptions – On a case-by-case basis, at the discretion of management, certain individuals who do not meet the above criteria may be eligible for the program, as long as there is justification that they are likely to fall into poverty with appropriate documentation in case notes.

Once enrolled, EcSA participants over 200% of the FPL must be served in accordance with all the same rules and policies that govern individuals enrolled below 200% of the FPL. Funding expended for clients over 200% of the FPL may not exceed \$5,000 spent on incentives and support services combined for any single participant. This does not include the cost of staff support or career services provided to the participant, or any training costs. This limit is exclusively applied to the State EcSA program and does not include any costs paid by other funds such as WIOA, Federal EcSA, or Community Reinvestment Funds.

Co-enrollment into formula and/or discretionary grants is recommended but not required. All eligibility criteria are required to be met prior to enrollment in each program.

Documentation requirements to serve individuals over 200% of the FPL may include the following:

1. Layoff letter
2. Documentation showing the end of benefits.
3. Eviction notice
4. 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 applicant at risk and follows local policy. See Administrative Bulletin 207 Case Notes – Data Integrity.

The following services and activities not capable of being provided by WIOA Title I are allowable uses of State EcSA funds, once a local policy has been established concerning their provision and filed with the Grants Management Office:

- Stipends/Participant Cash Support Payments
- Food Assistance (see Administrative Bulletin 217 Supportive Services)
- Housing and Rental Assistance (see Administrative Bulletin 217 Supportive Services)
- Medical and Mental Health Care including technology (eyeglasses, hearing aids, dental care etc.) (see Administrative Bulletin 217 Supportive Services)
- Marketing and Outreach

For the purposes of State EcSA, a participant support payment is defined as the provision of cash or gift cards to a client in order to incentivize participation or assist in participation in programs established in the client's individual employment plan. Items such as rental assistance or payments made on behalf of the client are supportive services and must be recorded and reported as such.

REFERENCES:

- WorkSource System Policy 5625 – State Guidance and Instructions for the Federal Economic Security for All Program
- Washington State Policy 7000 – State Guidance and Instructions for the State Economic Security for All Program