



ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR ALL

Policy Number: 203D, Revision 6
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) that is supported by State Funds and codified in state statute at RCW 43.164 and WIOA 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 below self-sufficiency who need employment-related services to achieve self-sufficiency.

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.

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.

III. POLICY:

State EcSA

To be eligible for State EcSA—**People Experiencing Poverty**, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- From households that are below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- Meet basic eligibility requirements for any of the three WIOA Title I-B formula programs, excluding requirements to register for Selective Service.

To be eligible for State EcSA—**People Who Demonstrate Financial Need**, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Be below their self-sufficiency goal and require employment or training-related services to achieve self-sufficiency.
- Meet basic eligibility requirements for any of the three WIOA Title I-B formula programs, excluding requirements to register for Selective Service.
- Individuals may be below or above 200% of the Federal Poverty Level, at the discretion of LWDBs, as long as they are below their self-sufficiency goal.

Allowable Uses of State EcSA Funding

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

- **Training through Non-ETPL Training Providers:** When South Central Workforce determines there is a training program of demonstrated effectiveness offered in the area by a training provider that may serve underrepresented populations including individuals experiencing systemic barriers to employment, even if the program is not listed on Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL). South Central Workforce has developed the below criteria for determining the demonstrated effectiveness of the training program, particularly as it applies to the individuals to be served. The criteria includes:
 - Demonstrated performance in the delivery of services to individuals experiencing systemic barriers to employment through such means as program completion rate, attainment of the skills, certificates, or degrees the program is designed to provide, placement after training into unsubsidized employment, and employment retention.

To initiate the process, the training provider must complete a Non-ETPL Provider Questionnaire Form (see [Attachment 1](#)). SCW approval is required before training can start, and individuals may not participate until approval is granted. The form may be filled out by the subcontractor, but must be signed by the actual training provider. Approval is valid for one year from the date of approval. Providers seeking continued eligibility must resubmit the questionnaire for re-evaluation before the approval period expires. See [Attachment 2](#) for the list of SCW approved Non-ETPL Providers.

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.

SCW designates that any aspects of the program not specifically cited in this document or other State EcSA guidance are controlled by the regulations set forth to govern the WIOA Title I-B program.

Federal EcSA

To be eligible for the Federal EcSA program, applicants must fall into one of the following eligibility pools:

All EcSA Participants Must:

- Be from a household (as defined by Health and Human Services (HHS) poverty guidelines) that is below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level and
- Meet basic eligibility requirements for any of the three WIOA Title I-B Formula Programs

EcSA Participants over 200% of the Federal Poverty Line Must:

- Meet basic eligibility requirements for any of the three WIOA Title I-B Formula Programs and
- Be from a household (as defined by [HHS poverty guidelines](#)) that is:
 - o Still below self-sufficiency wage as defined by the UW Self-Sufficiency Calculator or
 - o Are at risk of falling into poverty based on factors determined by the LWDB

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.

Allowable Uses of Federal EcSA Funding

Funds allocated and expended under the Federal EcSA program must comply with the regulations governing the use of WIOA Title I-B statewide activities funds, including federal, state, and local policy rules controlling the use of WIOA formula funds. Any departure from

such policies must be approved by the LWDB in accordance with their local procedures concerning new policy adoption.

Federal and State EcSA

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.

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.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: [Non-ETPL Provider Questionnaire Form](#)

Attachment 2: [SCW approved Non-ETPL Providers](#)

REFERENCES:

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