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TO: Income Maintenance Supervisors
Income Maintenance Lead Workers
Income Maintenance Staff
W-2 Agencies
Workforce Development Boards
Job Center Leads and Managers
Training Staff
Child Care Coordinators

FROM: Janice Peters, Director
Bureau of Working Families
Division of Family and Economic Security

Laura Saterfield, Director
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DFES OPERATIONS MEMO					
No:	09-07				
DATE:	02/05/2009				
FS	<input type="checkbox"/>	MA	<input type="checkbox"/>	SC	<input type="checkbox"/>
CTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	CC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	W-2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FSET	<input type="checkbox"/>	EA	<input type="checkbox"/>	CF	<input type="checkbox"/>
JAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JC	<input type="checkbox"/>	RAP	<input type="checkbox"/>
WIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	EP	<input type="checkbox"/>	
PRIORITY: MEDIUM					

SUBJECT: 2009 Federal Poverty Level Changes for Wisconsin Works (W-2) and Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Programs

CROSS REFERENCE: Child Care Manual
W-2 Manual, Chapter 3
[2009 DHHS Poverty Guidelines](#)

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 1, 2009

PURPOSE

This memo:

1. Provides the 2009 Federal Poverty Levels (FPL) that impact financial eligibility for Wisconsin Works (W-2), Job Access Loans (JALs), and Child Care (CC).
2. Provides information on the impact on the Child Care subsidy for applicants and recipients.

BACKGROUND

Each year the federal government adjusts the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). As a result of the annual FPL changes, income limits used for the W-2 program, Job Access Loans, Child Care eligibility and the income ranges that are used to determine the family co-payment for Child Care authorizations change.

POLICY

Following is the 2009 FPL table for eligibility use in the W-2 and Child Care programs:

2009 Federal Poverty Levels

Group Size	Annual Amt	Monthly 115% FPL	Monthly 185% FPL	Monthly 200% FPL	Group Size	Annual Amt	Monthly 115% FPL	Monthly 185% FPL	Monthly 200% FPL	
1	\$10,830	\$1,038	\$1,670	\$1,805	6	\$29,530	\$2,830	\$4,553	\$4,922	
2	\$14,570	\$1,396	\$2,246	\$2,428	7	\$33,270	\$3,188	\$5,129	\$5,545	
3	\$18,310	\$1,755	\$2,823	\$3,052	8	\$37,010	\$3,547	\$5,706	\$6,168	
4	\$22,050	\$2,113	\$3,399	\$3,675	9	\$40,750	\$3,905	\$6,282	\$6,792	
5	\$25,790	\$2,472	\$3,976	\$4,298	10	\$44,490	\$4,264	\$6,859	\$7,415	
						Each Added Person	\$3,740	\$358	\$577	\$623

WISCONSIN WORKS (W-2), JOB ACCESS LOAN (JAL) AND CHILD CARE (CC) ELIGIBILITY

The effective date of the new income limits for W-2, JAL, and CC eligibility is February 1, 2009. The new income limits will apply for W-2, JAL and CC applications started on or after February 1, 2009.

CHILD CARE AUTHORIZATIONS AND THE IMPACT ON CO-PAYS

Both family income limits and the co-payment schedule are being adjusted for the 2009 FPL. The revised co-payment schedule can be found at:

<http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/wishares/pdf/2009fpl.pdf>

The FPL update applies to both licensed and certified care. The new co-payment schedule will be effective February 15, 2009 and effect authorizations beginning that week. Parents and providers who experience a change in their authorization due to the co-payment update will receive an authorization letter February 9, 2009 explaining the change in authorization.

FAMILY AND PROVIDER NOTICES

All child care cases will go through the eligibility mass change, but ongoing approval notices (AEAX) will not be generated for child care cases that were open in January. These notices are not generated because the eligibility status of the family has not changed.

Family authorization notices will be sent for cases where a change to the co-payment amount has occurred.

Provider mass change notices will be sent for existing authorizations that have a new co-payment amount due to the FPL mass change.

CARES UPDATES

The CARES income limit tables (TWWS, TCCS) used to determine W-2 and Child Care eligibility were updated with an effective date of February 1, 2009. A CARES mass change for W-2 and CC eligibility will run February 6, 2009. The CARES mass change selects all ongoing W-2 and CC assistance groups to compare their income to the 2009 FPL amounts for March eligibility. This includes cases scheduled to close March 1, 2009. Some W-2 and CC cases that would have closed for March 1, 2009, using 2008 FPL income eligibility levels, may remain open when the 2009 FPL income limits are applied.

CONTACTS

For W-2 Policy Related Questions: BW-2 Regional Office Staff

For CC Policy Related Questions: Child Care Help Desk childcare@wisconsin.gov

For CARES Processing Questions: W-2/CC Help Desk

Program Categories – FS – FoodShare, MA – Medicaid, SC – Senior Care, CTS – Caretaker Supplement, CC – Child Care, W-2 – Wisconsin Works, FSET – FoodShare Employment and Training, CF – Children First, EA – Emergency Assistance, JAL – Job Access Loan, JC - Job Center Programs, RAP – Refugee Assistance Program, WIA – Workforce Investment Act, Other EP – Other Employment Programs.