

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN  
AND FAMILIES  
201 East Washington Avenue, Room G200  
P.O. Box 8916  
Madison, WI 53708-8916  
Telephone: 608-266-8684  
Fax: 608-261-6972  
www.dcf.wisconsin.gov



**State of Wisconsin  
Governor Scott Walker**

**TO: Income Maintenance Supervisors  
Income Maintenance Lead Workers  
Income Maintenance Staff  
Training Staff  
Child Care Coordinators**

**FROM: Kath McGurk, Director  
Bureau of Early Learning and Policy  
Division of Early Care and Education  
Department of Children and Families**

**DECE/BELP OPERATIONS MEMO**

**No: 18-34**

**DATE: 09/07/2018**

**Wisconsin Shares Child Care**

**SUBJECT: New Income Limit for Parents Receiving Wisconsin Shares Child  
Care**

**CROSS REFERENCE:** [Wisconsin Shares Child Care Policy and Process Handbook,  
Section 1.5.1.2](#)  
[2017 Wisconsin Act 59](#)

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** September 1, 2018

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Operations Memo is to introduce the new income limit for parents who are receiving Wisconsin Shares Child Care.

**BACKGROUND:** Currently, to be financially eligible for Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy, a family's income must be at or below 185% Federal Poverty Level (FPL) at application. In order to maintain ongoing eligibility for Wisconsin Shares, the family's income must not exceed 200% FPL. With the enactment of 2017 Wisconsin Act 59, a family's income must still be at or below 185% FPL at application, but the family may continue to be financially eligible for Wisconsin Shares until their income exceeds 85% of the Wisconsin State Median Income (SMI) for their family size.

**POLICY:** The following policy will be added to the Wisconsin Shares Child Care Policy and Process Handbook with the next release. The Section number for Maximum Gross Income for Ongoing Cases will be changing from 1.5.1.2 to 1.4.1.2 with the next release.

**1.4.1.2 Maximum Gross Income for Ongoing Cases**

The maximum gross income threshold is 85% of the State Median Income (SMI) for each Assistance Group (AG).

These figures were effective September 1, 2018. 85% SMI and the corresponding Federal Poverty Level (FPL) are updated annually.

AG Size	Loss of Eligibility (85% SMI)	Loss of Eligibility (Monthly Dollar Amount)
2	299% FPL	\$4,107
3	293% FPL	\$5,073
4	289% FPL	\$6,039
5	286% FPL	\$7,005
6	283% FPL	\$7,972
7	257% FPL	\$8,153
8	236% FPL	\$8,334
9	219% FPL	\$8,515
10	205% FPL	\$8,696

**CWW CHANGES:** Changes will be made to CWW to support the new program limit on September 8, 2018. Workers running eligibility on Monday, September 10, will see the new FPL percentage (equivalent to 85% SMI) display for ongoing cases on the Child Care Budget page in CWW. The new FPL will be dynamic based on Assistance Group size, as demonstrated in the table above.

**CONTACTS:**

For Wisconsin Shares Child Care policy questions outside of Milwaukee County contact your Bureau of Regional Operations (BRO), Child Care Coordinators at:  
[BROCCPolicyHelpDesk@wisconsin.gov](mailto:BROCCPolicyHelpDesk@wisconsin.gov).

For Child Care CARES/CWW and CSAW processing questions statewide, and policy questions in Milwaukee County, contact the Child Care Subsidy and Technical Assistance line at:  
[childcare@wisconsin.gov](mailto:childcare@wisconsin.gov) or (608) 422-7200.

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