

June 1, 2018

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To: WIOA Subrecipients of the Orange County
Development Area

From: Brian Rayburn 
Interim Director

**Subject: Self-Sufficiency
Information Notice No. 17-OCDB-24
Supersedes Information Notice No. 06-OCWDA-03**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance and establish the self-sufficiency standard for Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adults and Dislocated Workers.

REFERENCES

- WIOA (Public Law 113-128)
- WIOA Section 134(c)(3)(A)(i) and 134(d)(1)(A)(x)
- Title 20 CFR 680.210

EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy is effective immediately upon issuance.

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with WIOA Section 134(c)(3)(A)(i), individuals (employed and unemployed) who receive training must be unlikely or unable to obtain or retain employment that leads to economic self-sufficiency or wages comparable to or higher than wages from previous employment through career services alone. Additionally, they must be in need of training services to obtain or retain employment that leads to economic self-sufficiency or wages comparable to or higher than wages from previous employment. Under WIOA sec. 134(d)(1)(A)(x) local areas have the flexibility to adjust the State standard for economic self-sufficiency for local considerations.

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

The Orange County Development Board (OCDB) has adopted a self-sufficiency model that is to be utilized in determining eligibility for WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker customers in need of training services to obtain or retain employment that leads to self-sufficiency and allowing enrollment of employed WIOA Adult and Dislocated Workers who are not earning a self-sufficient wage.



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Self-Sufficiency Standard

Self-sufficiency is based on the “Basic Family Wage” income levels for Orange County enumerated in the report from the California Budget & Policy Center, *Making Ends Meet: How much Does It Cost to Support a Family in California*. The report estimates typical costs of housing and utilities, food, child care, health care, transportation, taxes, and miscellaneous expenses for four hypothetical families: (1) a single adult; (2) a single-parent family; (3) a two-parent family and one working parent; and, (4) two-working parent family. By limiting the self-sufficiency model to four scenarios, the eligibility determination process is simplified.

As of December 2017, the Basic Family Wage levels for Orange County were:

	Monthly Total	Annual Total
Single Adult	\$2,755	\$33,061
Single-Parent Family	\$5,859	\$70,304
Two-Parent Family (One Working)	\$5,265	\$63,176
Two-Working-Parent Family	\$6,730	\$80,765

Eligibility for customers in subsequent years shall be determined using the most recent report published. The report can be found here:

<http://calbudgetcenter.org/resources/making-ends-meet-much-cost-support-family-california/>

ACTION

Bring this policy to the attention of all affected staff and all relevant parties.

INQUIRIES

If you have any questions regarding this policy, please contact your Contract Administrator (714) 480-6500.