



EcSA (State & Federal) Policy for Over 200% FPL

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Policies and Procedures

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 14, 2023

POLICY #: P216

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy document is to provide clear guidance on the eligibility criteria for enrolling applicants from households with income over 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) in the Economic Security for All Program (both State and Federal). The WDC has prepared this document to ensure compliance with the guidelines set forth in the Employment Security Department's WorkSource Information Notice (WIN) [0135](#) and [0129](#).

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. Governor Inslee approved \$5.4 million in Program Year 2022 of WIOA Title I-B Statewide Activities Funds for a new round of Federal EcSA to provide services to households under 200% of FPL.

Additionally, at the direction of the Governor's Office, the Employment Security Department (ESD) received an additional \$1.4 million to extend the reach of the Federal EcSA program to households with income above 200% of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL) but at risk of falling below it. As part of this expansion, areas could allocate up to 15% of their Federal EcSA enrollments to serve such individuals.

To acknowledge the success of Washington's Workforce development system in alleviating poverty through the Federal EcSA program, Governor Inslee and the Legislature approved a \$6.2 million appropriation of the state general funds for Program Year 2022 (Fiscal Year 2023). These funds were distributed to Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDBs) to build upon the progress made by local Federal EcSA programs. This new round of EcSA funds established the current State EcSA program. In Program Year 2023 (Fiscal Year 2024), the legislature and Governor continued to allocate \$ 6.2 million per year for those below 200% of the FPL and an additional \$ 2.6 million per year to aid individuals over 200% of the FPL but at risk of falling into poverty. This state-funded allocation presents a significant opportunity for LWDBs to expand their services, improve workforce outcomes, and combat poverty across the state.

This document has been created to establish a local policy to expand EcSA (both State & Federal) eligibility criteria for those households whose income is above 200% of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL).

III. POLICY:

For individuals with household income exceeding 200% of the FPL who wish to participate in the Economic Security for All program (both State & Federal), the following criteria must be met:

1. Individuals must meet basic eligibility requirements of one of the WIOA Title IB Formula Programs. (**for the State EcSA program – Registering for Selective Service is not required*)

AND

2. Be below self-sufficiency wage as defined by the [UW Self-Sufficiency Calculator](#),

OR

3. Are at risk of falling below the self-sufficiency standard or below the Federal Poverty Level based on one or more of the following life events:
 - i. Recent or pending lay-off or upcoming loss of employment
 - ii. Change or increase in family size
 - iii. Loss of housing
 - iv. End of unemployment insurance payments or other public assistance
 - v. Status as a recent victim of domestic violence or stalking.
 - vi. Individual impacted by the Criminal Legal System
 - vii. The WDC program director may approve other circumstances on a case-by-case basis, as requested by the subcontractor.

Once enrolled, Federal & State EcSA participant 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 for both programs of enrollment.

Documentation requirements to serve individuals over the 200% of the FPL includes the following (where applicable):

1. Layoff letter
2. Documentation showing the end of benefits.
3. Eviction notice
4. Self-attestation.

IV. PROCEDURES:

For enrollment guidance and procedures follow the respective WINs

- Federal EcSA – [WIN 0135, Attachment A](#).
- State EcSA – [WIN 0129, Attachment B](#)

V. REFERENCES:

- Washington Information Notice [WIN 0135](#)
- Washington Information Notice [WIN 0129](#)
- WDC Case Note Technical Assistance Memo