



**COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO  
Workforce Investment Board  
POLICY MANUAL**

No. WIB 8

ISSUE

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By

EFFECTIVE 05/01/06

SUBJECT

Standard for achieving Self-Sufficiency in the Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA)

APPROVED

*Terry Klenske, Chairman*

**POLICY STATEMENT:** The San Bernardino Local Workforce Investment Board adopts the National Economic Development and Law Center’s “California Self-Sufficiency Standard for San Bernardino County” as its measurement tool for determining Self-Sufficiency in its WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker programs.

**Process:**

**References:**

- WIA Section 101 (24)
- WIA Regulations 663.220 and 663.230
- Employment Development Department’s WID Eligibility Technical Assistance Guide pp: 12 & 13.
- EDD Workforce Investment Act Directive Number: WIAD04-24
- The Self Sufficiency Standard for California, December 2003

**Background:**

- Title 20 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 663.220 and 663.230 interprets what criteria must be used to determine whether an unemployed and/or employed worker needs WIA intensive services to obtain or retain employment leading to self-sufficiency. State or Local Boards must set the criteria for determining whether employment leads to self-sufficiency. At a minimum, such criteria must provide that self-sufficiency means employment that pays at least the lower living standard income level, as defined in WIA Section 101(24). It is expected that the definition of self-sufficiency developed by the local areas will vary according to the area’s economic conditions and other mitigating circumstances. Local Areas have the discretion to develop criteria that sets a higher standard. This ensures that local conditions, such as the cost of living and local wages are considered.
- The Employment Development Department’s WID Eligibility Technical Assistance Guide (TAG) provides LWIAs with the State’s interpretation of Title 20 CFR Section 663.230. “In the absence of a State policy, local boards must set criteria for determining whether employment leads to self-sufficiency.” The adoption of a definition of self-sufficiency allows a local area to broaden the population it serves (e.g., by including the working poor) while not negatively impacting the LWIA performance measures.

San Bernardino County Local Workforce Investment Board recognizes that achieving Self-Sufficiency in the Local Workforce Investment Area is based on how much income is needed for a given family composition to adequately meet criteria such as shelter, food, child care, taxes, transportation, health care and other miscellaneous costs without public or private assistance. The National Economic Development & Law Center’s (NEDLC) Self-Sufficiency Standard for San Bernardino County incorporates these regional and local variations when establishing an Adult or Dislocated Worker’s level of self-sufficiency.

**Procedures:**

- Staff will continue to use the Federal Poverty Level and the Lower Living Standard Income Level to determine low income status for WIA Adult program services.
- Adults and dislocated workers who meet the WIA statutory requirements for Intensive and Training services may receive these services when their chosen occupation or career objective will lead to Self-Sufficiency as identified by the NEDLC California Self Sufficiency Standard for San Bernardino County.
- Exceptions to the Self-Sufficiency Standard will be determined on a case by case basis.