



**Bureau of Economic Self-Sufficiency
Information Memorandum**

IM-20-01A

PROGRAM(S):	Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)
SUBJECT:	Guidance on CSBG FY2020 Income Qualification Guidelines at 200% Federal Poverty Line
EFFECTIVE:	May 1, 2020

Purpose and Objective:

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES-Act), which covers both FY2020 regular CSBG and CARES-Act CSBG funding, provides “That for services furnished under such Act during fiscal years 2020 and 021, States may apply the last sentence of section 673(2) of such Act by substituting “200 percent” for “125 percent””. In response to the COVID-19 emergency, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) is electing to substitute the current 125% FPL requirement in the Florida CSBG Program Manual with the newly allowed 200% FPL for FY2020 CSBG Funds (regular and CARES Act).

Client Eligibility

To be eligible for CSBG services or benefits, clients must be at or below 200% of the federal poverty line as determined by the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) based on the most recent federal Census data and as revised annually (or more frequently) by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (see table below). The federal CSBG law does not require any particular process for determining client income eligibility; nor do HHS regulations. However, to ensure that CSBG funds are being used for income eligible clients, eligible entities should screen for income eligibility. Local CSBG programs are expected to maintain files on clients served by the CSBG program for DEO to confirm client eligibility and review use of funds in monitoring visits or upon request.

2020 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Continental United States

Number of Persons in Family/Household	100% Federal Poverty Level	200% of Federal Poverty Level
1	\$12,760	\$25,520
2	\$17,240	\$34,480
3	\$21,720	\$43,440
4	\$26,200	\$52,400
5	\$30,680	\$61,360
6	\$35,160	\$70,320
7	\$39,640	\$79,280
8	\$44,120	\$88,240
	For families/households with more than 8 persons add \$4,480	For families/households with more than 8 persons add \$8,960

Household Income

The policy listed in the CSBG "Policies and Procedures Manual" **Part 1200 -- Determining Income Eligibility**

.01 - General Requirements, Subsection (B) states *"Earned and/or unearned income will be considered in determining eligibility for services. The gross amount of income prior to deductions will be counted unless otherwise specified."*

Subsection (F) states *"Unearned income is defined as income which was not received as a result of the performance of a service, or earned from sources other than employment, self-employment or in-kind income."*

Therefore, in response to the COVID-19 emergency and for the duration of it, DEO is electing to remove the requirement of including "Unearned Income" in the household's income calculation. This policy aligns with the Federal government's policies in emergency disasters.

Inquiries:

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