

Division of Community Nutrition

<i>Subject:</i> Gross Income		<i>Policy:</i> CRT 05.2.2
<i>Reference:</i> N / A	<i>Effective:</i> May 1, 2026	<i>Supersedes:</i> August 12, 2013

I. Policy:

It is the policy of the Division of Community Nutrition that gross income must include items based on USDA guidelines.

II. Procedure(s):

A. Gross income includes the following:

- 1) Earnings from work:
 - a. Wages / salary / fees / tips / commissions / bonuses.
 - b. Net income from self-owned businesses or farm.
 - c. Severance pay.
 - d. Military-see CRT 05.2.4.
- 2) Public assistance, child support, and alimony payments.
- 3) Strike benefits, unemployment compensation, and worker's compensation.
 - a. Accept self-declaration of striker status if it is known in the community that the individual's workplace is on strike. Document in the participant's file.
 - b. Income for strikers or unemployed people is based on the period of unemployment only
 - c. Request letter of unemployment for unemployed people. Scan in the participant's record.
- 4) Pensions / Retirement / Social Security.
 - a. Pensions.
 - b. Retirement income.
 - c. Social Security.
 - d. Supplemental Social Security (SSI) income.
 - e. Veteran's payments.
- 5) Other Income.
 - a. Disability payments for non-medical purposes.
 - b. Cash withdrawn from savings.

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- c. Interest / Dividends.
 - d. Income from Estates / Trusts / Investments.
 - e. Regular contributions from people who do not live in the household.
 - f. Net royalties / annuities / net rental income / net gambling and lottery winnings.
 - g. Inheritances.
 - h. Other cash income.
- B. If an applicant / participant declares zero income, local agencies must determine how the applicant obtains basic living necessities such as food, shelter, medical care and clothing. If the applicant / participant has zero income with minimal or no resources, they are financially eligible upon verification by a reliable third party.
- 1) Instruct the applicant / participant to bring a written statement from a reliable third party that has knowledge of the applicant / participant's income prior to final eligibility determination.
 - 2) Reliable third parties include a social service agency, church, legal aid society, or employer.
 - 3) Scan the written statement in the participant's file.
 - 4) Refer applicants/participants to appropriate programs for additional aid and assistance.