

**3400.0170 INCOME ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE.**

Subpart 1. **Proof of income eligibility.** An applicant requesting child care assistance must provide proof of income eligibility. For the purpose of determining income eligibility, annual income is the income of the family for the current month multiplied by 12, the income for the 12-month period immediately preceding the date of application, or the income calculated by the method that provides the most accurate assessment of annual income available to the family. The administering agency must use the method that provides the most accurate assessment of annual income currently available to the family. Income must be verified with documentary evidence. If the applicant does not have sufficient evidence of income, the administering agency must offer the applicant the opportunity to sign an informational release to permit the administering agency to verify whether the applicant qualifies for child care assistance.

Subp. 2. [Repealed, 26 SR 253]

Subp. 3. **Evaluation of income.** The administering agency shall determine income received or available to a family according to subparts 4 to 11. All income, unless specifically excluded in subpart 6, must be counted as income.

Subp. 4. **Determination of annual income.** The income standard for determining eligibility for child care assistance is annual income. Annual income is the sum of earned income, self-employment income, unearned income, and lump sum payments, which must be treated according to subpart 13. Negative self-employment income must be included in the determination of annual income, resulting in a reduction in total annual income. Earned income, self-employment income, unearned income, and lump sum payments must be calculated separately.

Subp. 5. [Repealed, L 2015 c 71 art 5 s 34]

Subp. 6. [Repealed, L 2015 c 71 art 5 s 34]

Subp. 6a. **Deductions from income.** The following items must be deducted from annual income:

A. child or spousal support paid to or on behalf of a person or persons who live outside of the household; and

B. funds used to pay for health and dental insurance premiums for family members.

Subp. 7. **Earned income from self-employment.** In determining annual income for purposes of eligibility under this part, the administering agency shall determine earned income from self-employment. Earned income from self-employment is the difference between gross receipts and authorized self-employment expenses which may not include expenses under subpart 8. Self-employment business records must be kept separate from the family's personal records. If the person's business is a partnership or a corporation and that person is drawing a salary, the salary shall be treated as earned income under subpart 5.

Subp. 8. **Self-employment deductions which are not allowed.** In determining eligibility under this part, self-employment expenses must be subtracted from gross receipts. For purposes of

this subpart, the document in items I to K is incorporated by reference. It is available through the Minitex interlibrary loan system. It is subject to frequent change. If the document in items I to K is amended, and if the amendments are incorporated by reference or otherwise made a part of state or federal law applicable to self-employment deductions, then the amendments to the document are also incorporated by reference into this subpart. However, the expenses listed in items A to P shall not be subtracted from gross receipts:

- A. purchases of capital assets;
- B. payments on the principal of loans for capital assets;
- C. depreciation;
- D. amortization;
- E. the costs of building an inventory, until the time of sale;
- F. transportation costs that exceed the amount allowed for use of a personal car in the United States Internal Revenue Code;
- G. the cost of transportation between the individual's home and his or her place of employment;
- H. wages and salaries paid to and other employment deductions made for members of a family for whom an employer is legally responsible, provided family income is only counted once;
- I. monthly expenses for each roomer greater than the flat rate deduction listed in the current Combined Program Manual issued by the Department of Human Services;
- J. monthly expenses for each boarder greater than the flat rate deduction listed in the current Combined Program Manual issued by the Department of Human Services;
- K. monthly expenses for each roomer-boarder greater than the flat rate deduction listed in the current Combined Program Manual issued by the Department of Human Services;
- L. annual expenses greater than two percent of the estimated market value on a county tax assessment form as a deduction for upkeep and repair against rental income;
- M. expenses not allowed by the United States Internal Revenue Code for self-employment income, unless specifically authorized in this chapter;
- N. federal, state, and local income taxes;
- O. employer's own share of FICA; and
- P. money set aside for the self-employed person's own retirement.

**Subp. 9. Self-employment budget period.** Gross receipts from self-employment must be budgeted in the month in which they are received. Expenses must be budgeted against gross receipts in the month the expenses are paid except for items A to C.

A. The purchase cost of inventory items, including materials that are processed or manufactured, must be deducted as an expense at the time payment is received for the sale of those inventory items, processed materials, or manufactured items, regardless of when those costs are incurred or paid.

B. Expenses to cover employee FICA, employee tax withholding, sales tax withholding, employee worker's compensation, employee unemployment compensation, business insurance, property rental, property taxes, and other costs that are commonly paid at least annually, but less often than monthly, must be prorated forward as deductions from gross receipts over the period they are intended to cover, beginning with the month in which the payment for these items is made.

C. Gross receipts from self-employment may be prorated forward to equal the period of time over which the expenses were incurred. However, gross receipts must not be prorated over a period that exceeds 12 months. This provision applies only when gross receipts are not received monthly but expenses are incurred on an ongoing monthly basis.

Subp. 10. **Determination of farm income.** Farm income must be determined for a one-year period. Farm income is gross receipts minus operating expenses, except for expenses listed in subpart 8. Gross receipts include sales, rents, subsidies, soil conservation payments, production derived from livestock, and income from the sale of home-produced foods.

Subp. 11. **Determination of rental income.**

A. Income from rental property is considered self-employment earnings when the owner spends an average of 20 or more hours per week on maintenance or management of the property. The administering agency shall deduct an amount for upkeep and repairs according to subpart 8, item L, for real estate taxes, insurance, utilities, and interest on principal payments.

B. When a family lives on the rental property, the administering agency shall divide the expenses for upkeep, taxes, insurance, utilities, and interest by the number of units to determine the expense per unit. The administering agency shall deduct expenses from rental income only for the number of units rented, not for units occupied by family members.

C. When an owner does not spend an average of 20 or more hours per week on maintenance or management of the property, income from rental property is considered unearned income.

D. The deductions described in this subpart are subtracted from gross rental receipts.

Subp. 12. [Repealed, L 2015 c 71 art 5 s 34]

Subp. 13. [Repealed, L 2015 c 71 art 5 s 34]

**Statutory Authority:** *MS s 119B.02; 119B.04; 119B.06; 256.01; 256H.01 to 256H.19*

**History:** *14 SR 519; 18 SR 1144; 26 SR 253; 33 SR 695; L 2003 1Sp14 art 1 s 106; L 2015 c 71 art 5 s 34; L 2017 1Sp5 art 10 s 7*

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