

## ELIGIBILITY FOR MONTANA'S PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Prepared for the Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee  
May 22, 2015

Montanans are eligible for certain public assistance programs if they meet eligibility standards, including income limits that are usually set at a percentage of the federal poverty level (FPL). The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services updates the poverty guidelines annually. The tables below show:

- eligibility standards for various public assistance programs, including key Medicaid categories; and
- the income requirements for the various percentages of the federal poverty level.

### Montana Public Assistance Eligibility Standards and Enrollments

Medicaid Category	Income as % of FPL	Allowable Assets	Enrollees <sup>1</sup>
Parent/Caretaker Relative	Approximately 47%	Not Counted	Adults: 15,600 Children: 3,295
Aged, Blind, Disabled	Individual: \$733/month <sup>2</sup> Couple: \$1,100/month	Individual: \$2,000 Couple: \$3,000	26,374 Children and Adults
Childless Adults	138%	Not Counted	TBD
Children Under 19	143%	Not Counted	87,607
Pregnant Women	157%	Not Counted	4,118
Children in Foster Care or Subsidized Adoption	Varies	Foster Care: \$3,000 Sub Adoption: Not Counted	4,367
Breast/Cervical Cancer	200%	Not Counted	165
Workers with Disabilities (Buy-In Program)	250%	Individual: \$8,000 Couple: \$12,000	972
<b>Healthy Montana Kids Plan (HMK)</b>	144% to 261%	Not Counted	19,770
SNAP Category	Income as % FPL	Allowable Assets	Enrollees
Categorical Eligibility	TANF cash assistance or SSI eligibility	Not Counted	12,310
Expanded Categorical <sup>3</sup>	200% gross/100% net <sup>4</sup> (must meet both standards)	Not Counted	109,360
TANF Category	Income as % of FPL	Allowable Assets	Enrollees
Parent/ Caretaker Relative and Related Minor Child	30% of 2011 FPL	\$3,000	Adults: 1,680 Children: 5,261

<sup>1</sup>Source: Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. Enrollment as of February 2015.

<sup>2</sup> Income standards for this eligibility group are set at the Social Security Supplemental Security Income (SSI) level.

<sup>3</sup> Expanded eligibility is conferred through receipt of a TANF-funded brochure providing information on community resources.

<sup>4</sup> After allowable deductions such as rent, utilities, and child care, net monthly income may not exceed 100% of FPL.

## Income at Various Levels of Poverty

### Gross Yearly Income

Size	30%	47%	100%	138%	143%	157%	200%	250%	261%
	TANF	M: Parents		M: Expansion	M: Children	M: Pregnant Women	M: Breast/Cervical Cancer	M: Buy-In	HMK-CHIP
1	\$3,531	\$5,532	\$11,770	\$16,243	\$16,831	\$18,479	\$23,540	\$29,425	\$30,720
2	\$4,779	\$7,487	\$15,930	\$21,983	\$22,780	\$25,010	\$31,860	\$39,825	\$41,577
3	\$6,027	\$9,442	\$20,090	\$27,724	\$28,729	\$31,541	\$40,180	\$50,225	\$52,435
4	\$7,275	\$11,398	\$24,250	\$33,465	\$34,678	\$38,073	\$48,500	\$60,625	\$63,293
5	\$8,523	\$13,353	\$28,410	\$39,206	\$40,626	\$44,604	\$56,820	\$71,025	\$74,150
6	\$9,771	\$15,308	\$32,570	\$44,947	\$46,575	\$51,135	\$65,140	\$81,425	\$85,008
7	\$11,109	\$17,263	\$36,730	\$50,687	\$52,524	\$57,666	\$73,460	\$91,825	\$95,865
8	\$12,267	\$19,218	\$40,890	\$56,428	\$58,473	\$64,197	\$81,780	\$102,225	\$106,723

M = Medicaid Category

### Gross Monthly Income

Size	30%	47%	100%	138%	143%	157%	200%	250%	261%
	TANF	M: Parents		M: Expansion	M: Children	M: Pregnant Women	M: Breast/Cervical Cancer	M: Buy-In	HMK-CHIP
1	\$294	\$461	\$981	\$1,354	\$1,403	\$1,540	\$1,962	\$2,453	\$2,560
2	\$398	\$624	\$1,328	\$1,833	\$1,899	\$2,085	\$2,656	\$3,320	\$3,466
3	\$502	\$787	\$1,674	\$2,310	\$2,394	\$2,628	\$3,348	\$4,185	\$4,369
4	\$606	\$950	\$2,021	\$2,789	\$2,890	\$3,173	\$4,042	\$5,053	\$5,275
5	\$710	\$1,113	\$2,368	\$3,268	\$3,386	\$3,718	\$4,736	\$5,920	\$6,180
6	\$814	\$1,276	\$2,714	\$3,745	\$3,881	\$4,261	\$5,428	\$6,785	\$7,084
7	\$918	\$1,439	\$3,061	\$4,224	\$4,377	\$4,806	\$6,122	\$7,653	\$7,989
8	\$1,022	\$1,602	\$3,408	\$4,703	\$4,873	\$5,351	\$6,816	\$8,520	\$8,895