

## ELIGIBILITY FOR MONTANA'S PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

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