

## **The Mississippi Partnership Family Size Determination Guidelines For WIOA Participants**

The purpose of this guidance is to provide clarification to WIOA staff in The Mississippi Partnership Workforce Area when determining the family size of WIOA participants.

WIOA defines a family as:

Two or more persons related by blood, marriage, or decree of court, who are living in a single residence and are included in one or more of the following categories:

1. A married couple and dependent children,
2. A parent or guardian and dependent children, or
3. A married couple.

WIOA does not define what a dependent child is. The Mississippi Partnership provides the following guidelines in determining the dependent status WIOA participant who lives at home with his/her parent(s) or guardian(s):

1. Is the individual aged 18-24 and supporting themselves more than 50%?
2. Is the individual aged 25 or older?
3. Is the individual married or separated but not divorced?
4. Does the individual have children who receive more than half their support from the individual?
5. Is the individual on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for purposes other than training?
6. Is the individual a Veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces?

If the answer to all of these questions is “No” the individual is considered a dependent child. You will include the parent(s) or guardian(s) in the family size or family household income.

If the answer to any of these questions is “Yes” then the individual is not considered an independent child. You will not include the parent(s) or guardian(s) in the family size or family household income