

441—58.26(234) Income. The household's nonexempt gross income, with the exception of the deductions specified at subrule 58.26(2), shall not exceed 100 percent of the poverty level of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Changes in OMB's poverty guidelines shall go into effect the second month after the changes are published. When determining income and household size, the household shall be determined as defined in rule 441—58.21(234). All income reported by the household shall be verified.

58.26(1) *Income considered.* Income considered shall include, but is not limited to, all gross income received or reasonably anticipated to be received by the household in the month of application, such as the family investment program (FIP) grant, veteran's pension, social security benefits, supplemental security income (SSI), job insurance benefits, child support income, alimony, workers' compensation benefits, cash payments from any of the DHS diversion programs, adoption subsidies, foster care payments, retroactive payments from any source, lump-sum income, earnings from on-the-job training, work-study income, income tax refunds (if received in the month of application), loans and grants available for living expenses (including unprorated gross educational moneys received in the month of application that are not earmarked), interest income (if received in the month of application), maintenance payments, Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) payments, gifts, refunds from rental and utility deposits, earned income credit, self-employment income (net profit expected to be received in the month of application, not annualized), earnings from employment, and earnings of a child aged 16 or over who is not attending elementary, secondary or the equivalent of vocational or technical school full-time. The following deductions shall be allowed from earned income:

a. The actual, verified amount of employment-related, nonreimbursed child care expenses incurred or reasonably expected to be incurred in the month of application. A child care deduction shall also be allowed for VISTA volunteers.

b. Allowable business expenses in a self-employment enterprise, as defined at 441—subrule 41.27(2).

58.26(2) *Exempt income.* Exempt income shall include reimbursements; earned as well as unearned income in-kind; vendor payments; earnings of a child under age 16, or age 16 or older, if the child is attending elementary, secondary or the equivalent level of vocational or technical training school full-time; training allowances designated for a specific purpose (such as those issued by the Workforce Investment Act, PROMISE JOBS, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Food Stamp Employment and Training program, etc.); that amount of the lump sum expended for legal, medical or burial expenses; and legally obligated moneys. Legally obligated money means money that is otherwise payable to the household, but which is diverted by the provider of the payment to a third party for a household expense without the household's consent. Examples of legally obligated moneys are the amount withheld from job insurance benefits to recover an overpayment or for child support for a child not living with the household; or the amount of child support withheld from earnings for a child not living with the household.

58.26(3) *Exempt as income and resources.* Deposits into an individual development account (IDA) are exempt. The amount of the deposit is exempt as income and shall not be used in the 100 percent of poverty level eligibility test. The deposit must be deducted from nonexempt earned and unearned income that the client receives in the month of application, provided the deposit is made in the month of application. To allow a deduction, verification of the deposit must be provided within five calendar days as described in subrule 58.23(3). The client shall be allowed a deduction only when the deposit is made from the client's money. The earned income deductions described in 58.26(1) "a" and "b" shall be applied to earnings from employment or net profit from self-employment that remains after deducting the amount deposited into the account. If the client has both earned and unearned income, the amount deposited into the IDA shall first be deducted from the client's nonexempt unearned income. Deposits shall not be deducted from earned or unearned income that is exempt.