

Subject: Income Support Eligibility for Spouses/Cohabiting Partners

Number: IS-ETW/BFE-2014-001
IS-LEARNER-2014-001

Date Issued: February 6, 2014

Effective Date: Immediately

Issuer: David Schneider
Executive Director
Employment and Financial Program Policy

Distribution: Human Services Employment and Financial Supports Division
Human Services Common Service Access Division:
Common Service Delivery
Tuition-based Public and Private Training Providers
Student Aid Alberta

BACKGROUND:

When adding a spouse/partner to an active file, the spouse/partner must declare their income and assets and sign a new copy of the [EMP 2004 Notice of Eligibility](#) with the Head of Household. If the spouse/partner has employment income, the household is considered as a recipient for the purpose of the treatment of income and an earnings exemption is applied.

When a household has an ineligible spouse/partner, the income and assets of the spouse/partner are considered to belong to the eligible adult member of the household and used to determine eligibility for the household. Income and asset exemptions are applied as per policy.

INTENT:

Establish consistent procedures for eligibility determination for spouses/partners.

POLICY:

The following ETW/BFE policies have been updated:

[Income Support Overview-Eligibility Impacts](#)
[Income Support Overview-Assessing Need and Client Type](#)
[Income-On-Going Assistance](#)
[Special Groups-Persons with Immigration Status-Immigration Status-Other Than Family Class](#)
[Limited/Ineligible Groups](#)

The following Learner policy has been created:

[Financial Benefits Decision-Partial Financial Eligibility-Spouse/Partner Ineligible Due to Residency, Citizenship or Other Program Involvement](#)