

Economic Table Subcommittee Draft Report

Overview

The subcommittee came together and agreed that what was out of scope was reengineering the table itself. What was in scope was to build off of the existing table including adding some verbiage to the concept of rounding up to clarify. We also recognize this is one tool that works in conjunction with the worksheet.

Key Issues

We acknowledge that rising incomes and multi (3) parent families, it needs to be relevant for a wider range of incomes. We want this to be relevant for a long time so that it doesn't need to be changed again.

Finding and Recommendations

1. Extending the table to \$50,000
2. Starting the table at \$1600 because anything lower than \$1569 defaults to a \$50 order
3. Clarifying the verbiage around "rounding up" to include adding \$50 in the explanation.

The committee recommends that the economic table be extended beyond the current combined monthly income limit of \$12,000 per month. This recommendation is based on the observation that the table is not applicable for families with CMNI exceeding \$12,000. As wages rise over time, this limit will make the table irrelevant for an increasing number and portion of families with rising incomes, including those with more than 2 parents. The committee recommends that the table be extended to \$50,000 CMNI in order to keep it relevant for an extended period of time.

The committee recommends that the economic table starts at \$1,600 rather than the current threshold of \$1,000 CMNI. The rationale for this recommendation is based on the observation that child support orders for families with CMNI less than \$1,569 automatically defaults to a \$50 monthly order. Eliminating the rows for CMNI less than \$1,600 will streamline the process for low income families.

The committee recommends a clarification to the wording on page 6 of the Economic Table instructions from, "Locate in the left-hand column the combined monthly net income amount closest to the amount entered on line 4 of Worksheet (***round up when the combined monthly net income falls halfway between the two amounts in the lefthand column***) to "Locate the Combined Monthly Income closest to the amount on line 4 of the Worksheet. ***Round down if the last two digits of the Combined Monthly Income are 49 or less. Round up if the last two digits of the Combined Monthly Income are 50 or more.***"

Citations