

Seattle Multifamily Tax Exemption (MFTE), Incentive Zoning(IZ) and Mandatory Housing Affordability(MHA) Income Verification Summary

Last updated April 2023. This chart is intended as a learning tool to assist with income verification and is not all inclusive of information referenced in the Incentive Program Compliance Manual. Best viewed on screen.

1111		Housing Amordability(ivii	HA) Income Verification Summary	Incentive Program Compliance Manual. Best viewed on screen.
REA#	Income Source	Required Verification Documentation	Count as income	Notes
1,2	Employment	employment verification company showing same information. Six pay stubs should be requested <u>only</u> if there is are unsuccessful documented attempts to retrieve the above materials. See notes. If employment offer letter is available, an Incentive Program	GROSS INCOME, including annual wages/salary, overtime, bonuses, commission, tips. It is not acceptable to use net amounts after taxes or otherwise remove bonuses, tips or overtime to increase chances of eligibility. Bonuses anticipated or received historically are projected forward. If tips are received but employer does not provide number, assume 20% of income. Use higher of annualized periodic income and annualized YTD income. Exceptions to using the YTD figure are allowable only in cases of truly sporadic or seasonal income and with prior approval from the Office of Housing.	missing information. Include self-addressed envelope if mailing. If employer has outsourced employment
3	Self-employment	Incentive Program Self-Employment Verification Form, include signed and completed most recent federal income tax return (1040) with schedules or Profit and Loss statement (for new businesses only that do not have 12 months covered on tax return).	Net income from operation of business or profession, including any cash withdrawals.	Form and documentation completed and submitted by applicant. Do not deduct depreciation, payments to expand business, or principal payments on debt. Count salaries, cash or assets withdrawn by family members except when reimbursement of investment in business.
4	Employment from online sources (ebay, Etsy, Twitch, etc)	This is considered Self Employment. Follow the directions above. If applicant doesn't file taxes as self employed obtain 6 months of statements from each online income source.	Annualize the deposits made over the 6 months period of statements.	For net income to be considered the applicant must file or intend to file federal income return for this income (and would be considered self employed as above), otherwise the gross income is counted.
5	Social Security Income	Award letter <u>or</u> recently dated Benefit Statement <u>or</u> completed Social Security or Supplemental Security Income Benefits Form	Count the anticipated gross amounts before deductions for Medicare to be received during the 12 month period beginning on the certification effective date.	Letter or statement submitted by applicant. SSA/SSI award letters for the new year are typically received by the recipient in November or December of the previous year. Use the most current information available.
6	Unearned income for family member <18 years old	Award letter that verifies the monthly unearned income amount.	Count the anticipated gross amounts to be received during the 12 month period beginning on the certification effective date.	Most common type of unearned income for a minor is Social Security Disability, Social Security Death Benefits. However, this is not an exhaustive list.
7	Child support	Notarized Incentive Program Child Support Affidavit or print-out from DSHS/Office of Support Enforcement or notarized letter from parent paying support	Anticipated payments to be received during 12 month period beginning on the certification effective date.	Form completed/statement submitted by applicant. A notarized Child Support Affidavit must be used when there is no formal court-ordered child support arrangement and the resident cannot provide any other documentation.
8	Alimony/spousal payments	Separation Agreement/Divorce Decree or notarized letter from former spouse paying support	Anticipated payments to be received during 12 month period beginning on the certification effective date.	Decree or letter submitted by applicant.
9	Public Assistance Income	Print-out from DSHS <u>or</u> Incentive Program Public Assistance Verification Form	Anticipated payments to be received for 12 month period beginning on the certification effective date. DO NOT verify or count the following: Food stamps; HUD housing assistance (Section 8); Shelter Plus Care.	Most recent statement submitted by applicant or property sends form to agency.
10	Unemployment, Labor & Industries Disability Benefits	Benefits statement from Employment Security Department or Labor and Industries, or Unemployment Benefits Verification Request	Anticipated benefit payments to be received during 12 month period beginning on the certification effective date.	Most recent benefits statement submitted by applicant or property sends/receives form from agency.
11	Military Pay	Copy of current Leave and Earnings Statement (LES) with the applicable clothing allowance added or Incentive Program Military Pay Verification Request	Anticipated amounts to be received during 12 month period beginning on the certification effective date.	LES submitted by applicant or property sends/receives form from Commanding Officer. Do not verify or count reenlistment bonus, Imminent Danger (Hazardous Duty) pay. Service members can request their LES at https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx. Note that the post 9/11 GI Bill is excluded from income calculation in its entirety- this exclusion includes the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH).

12	Periodic Distributions from Long-Term Care Insurance, Pensions, Annuities, Disability or Death Benefits	Annual benefits statement <u>or</u> Incentive Program Pension Verification Request form.	Full amount of periodic payments anticpated to be received during 12 month period beginning on the certification effective date. Withdrawals from retirement savings and 401k accounts that are not recurring periodic payments are not included in income.	Form completed by institution or statement provided by applicant. Lump-sum receipts from pension and retirement are counted as assets. If received as periodic payments, count as income. If the individual initially receives a lump-sum benefit followed by periodic payments, count the lump-sum as asset and treat the periodic payments as income. If not receiving payments, count as an asset.
13	Gift Income	the assistance, stating the purpose, dates, and value of the monetary	Anticipated gift payments, regardless of source outside the household, to be received during 12 month period beginning on the certification effective date. Do not count groceries provided directly to the applicant.	Form completed by the person/insitution providing income. If a cosigner provides gift payments to the household to assist with rent or bills, it must be included as income. If cosigner does not currently provide assistance and does not intend to provide ongoing assistance to household, do not include as income. The Gift Affidavit must be notarized, there are no exceptions. It may be notarized out of state and should not be notarized by property staff.
14	Rental Property Income	Copy of resident's most current signed tax return (IRS Form 1040 and Schedule E) or if the resident has just started to rent the property and no tax return has been filed, obtain a copy of the resident's tenant rental agreement to determine rental income. If no tax return, obtain copy of the latest mortgage payments on the property, insurance, maintenance costs, taxes.	Income is the difference between rental payment received from applicant's tenant minus the mortage payment, taxes, insurance and reasonable maintenance costs. Do not exclude depreciation.	Tax return and schedules submitted by applicant. Add back to net income any depreciation taken (See Schedule E of tax return). On 2015 Schedule E, Add line 24 (Income) and sum of row 18 (Depreciation Expense or Depletion).
15	Private Contract for Real Estate Sold	Copy of contract and amortization schedule.	Count as income the anticipated interest portion of payment for 12 month period beginning on the certification effective date.	
16	Income Associated with Students	FASFA or WASFA, Class Scheduling including tuition and fees, Financial Aid award letter. F1 form for international students.	Excluded: Pell and other need grants, loans, workstudy, GI Bill funding. Non-excluded: Stipend connected with educational employment for Graduate students. Family support as listed on F1 form for international students. Other regular contributions from family or other source.	Generally if the income is need based and government funded it should be exluded. Non-exempt income should be listed on page 1 of the HEC and Exempt income on the optional Page 3 of the HEC.
17	Other Income Sources	Verify that income source is not better categorized elsewhere on Income Declaration. Documentation for Other Income will depend on source. Contact the Office of Housing.	Contact the Office of Housing.	Contact the Office of Housing.
Exclusions	Do Not Include as Income	Student financial assistance in the form of grants, loans, scholarships, are valued as assets), employment income from minors unless they a		e verification. Nonrecurring or sporadic income, lump sump additions (such as one-time lottery, inheritances, these

Seattle MFTE, Incentive Zoning and Mandatory Housing Affordability Asset Verification Summary Chart

REA#	Assets	Required Verification Documentation	Count as income	Notes	
Regardless of	egardless of the total assets on the Income Declaration, collect the appropriate documentation below only for the assets disclosed:				
18		Six (6) months consecutive statements from each checking account.	Asset value is the average 6 month balance. Imputed interest is calculated regardless	Deposit Verifications are no longer in use for checking accountsand consecutive statements must be obtained.	
	Checking Account		of whether account is interest bearing. Property will calculate income based on		
	Checking Account		actual interest rate (when applicable for		
			some checking accounts) and imputed 0.06% interest rate.		
		Six (6) months consecutive statements from each savings account.	Current account balance is the asset value. Property will calculate 12	Deposit Verificatons are no longer in use for savings account and consecutive statements must be obtained.	
19	Savings Account		month anticipated income based on actual interest rate and imputed 0.06% interest		
			rate.		
20,21,23,	Stocks, Bonds, Money	Annuity or Stock Verification Request Form or account statement,	Asset value is current value less any fees and penalities for converting to cash and any	Statements submitted by applicant or form sent by property directly to financial institution(s). Statements must	
24	Market Funds, CDs,	certificate of deposit, letters or documents from a financial	tax penalties. Property will caculate income based on actual interest rate and imputed	show net amount household would receive if liquidated funds and any rates of return when applicable.	
	IRA,401k,Annuities	institution or broker's quarterly statements.	0.06% interest rate.		
	ika,401k,Aiiiluities				

22	Trusts		Determine whether applicant(s) is the creator/grantor or the beneficiary/trustee. If the grantor, determine if the trust is revocable or nonrevocable. If revocable, the value of the trust is the asset value. If nonrevocable, do not count the trust as an asset as the creator/grantor has no access to the funds. If the beneficiary, determine if they have access to the funds. If yes, the asset value is the amount that could be withdrawn less any penalties. If the beneficiary withdraws all the money as a lump sum, it is an asset. If the beneficiary receives a portion of trust on periodic basis, count amounts received as income. If there are no periodic payments and the interest income earned from the trust is reinvested, do not count the reinvested amounts as income.	Documentation provided by applicant. If no member of the household has access to either the principal or income of the trust at the current time, the trust is not included in the calculation of income from assets or in annual income. If only the interest income (not the principal) is available to any member of the household, this income is counted towards annual income, but the trust is not included in the calculation of income from assets. Contact the Office of Housing if in need of assistance.
25	Real estate	If real estate is currently owned and for sale, use the Real Estate Evaluation Worksheet . If real estate was lost due to bankruptcy, foreclosure, divorce or separation, it is not considered an asset and is not counted. Here, obtain final foreclosure documents (not Notice of Foreclosure), copy of divorce decrees that shows distribution of assets, other documentation as appropriate.	Asset value= market value less unpaid balance on any loans secured by the property and costs incurred in selling the asset, penalties, brokers fees, etc.	Documentation provided by applicant. Use the market value in all calculations, not the tax valuation or appraised value. If applicant household currently owns real estate that they are renting to other occupants, see Rental Property Income above. If real estate was sold on contract, see Private Contract for Real Estate Sold above. For complicated transactions, contact Office of Housing
26	Whole Life or Univesral Life insurance policy	Whole/Univesral Life Insurance Verification form or the most current statement that verifies cash surrender value, dividend interest rate.	Any policy that is currently paying out on a regular basis. Any policy that is also an asset and available to the applicant/tenant to access. Review for cash value and penalties.	Term Life Insurance is only payable upon death and does not have a cash value, therefore it is not included as an asset.
27	Personal property held as investment	Documented appraisal or applicant/resident certification.	Count as an asset antique cars, gems, jewelry, coin collections, that are held as an investment.	Documentation provided by applicant. DO NOT include as an asset personal property such as clothing, jewerly, furniture cars for daily transportation, wedding rings, or assets that are a part of an active business.
28	than FMV in 2 years prior	asset <u>and</u> an appraisal .	The amount counted as an asset is the difference between the fair market value of the asset and the amount actually received for the asset. Property will calculate imputed amount as if it was earning interest at 0.06%.	Note that the requirement to disclose assets disposed of over the last two years only applies when asset value exceeds \$1,000. This applies to cash gifts as well as property. DO NOT count assets disposed of for less than fair market value as a result of foreclosure, bankruptcy, divorce, or separation.
29	Online Financial Accounts (Venmo PayPal, Robbinhood, etc)		The amount counted is recurring deposits. Statements by the applicant/tenant that the deposit is for a repayment (loan, splitting rent) larger than \$300 must provide substainting documents to verify the statement.	
30	Cash on Hand	When cash on hand is \$1,000 or greater complete the Cash on Hand Affidavit	Asset value is current amount of cash on hand. Property will calculate imputed amount as if it was earning interest at 0.06%.	This is income that is not in a bank account or in another investment, such as "cash under the mattress". Impute interest income (0.06%).
31	Other Assets	Verify that asset is not better categorized elsewhere on REA. Documentation for Other Assets will depend on type. Contact the Office of Housing.	Contact the Office of Housing.	Contact the Office of Housing.

Multifamily Tax Exemption (MFTE), Incentive Zoning and Mandatory Housing Affordability Income Verification Process Determining Rents in MFTE/IZ/MHA Programs

1.) Provide Income Declaration (ID)	* ID must be completely filled out by applicant to be acccepted. All income sources are for 12 months after move-in.	Rent Maximums	* Rent maximums are calculated yearly by the Office of Housing based on the
form to Applicant	* Property representative and applicant must sign same day.		Area Median Income (AMI) provided by the US Department of Housing and Urban
	* Property completes cover page, each adult household member completes pages 1-4.		Development.
	* If not completed correctly or absent from file, resident is not eligible and property is out of compliance.		* Current Rent Maximums for Incentive Programs are posted on
	* Retain on file for 6 years after move-out.		compliance webpage. See link below left.
	* Satisfies MFTE requirement to provide definition of income to applicant and disclose all income sources.		* Rent maximums may only be updated to current effective limits upon lease
	* ID values expected to represent reasonably accurate estimates only.		renewal or when MTM, with proper notice.
2.) Obtain Income and Asset	* Once ID is completed, income sources should be verified within 2 weeks of signature date.	Adjustments to Maximum	* Gross rents must be at or below the maximum allowable rent.
Occumentation to Support Sources	* Use ID crosswalk above to determine what documentation is required for each income/asset source	Rents	*Gross rents include the base rent, tenant paid utilities, and all non-optional recurring fees
Disclosed in ID	* If unsure about appropriate documentation for a given source, contact Office of Housing.		the tenant pays as a condition of tenancy. Base rent must be below adjusted amount as
	* Retain all income documentation on file minimum 6 years after move-out.		follows:
	* Gross discrepancies between RID and documented value of income requires follow-up with applicant.	Adjusted Maximum Rent	Maximum Rent

3.) Enter Verified Income into	* Enter all verified income, assets values and income from assets into the TIC. Recommend using in Excel form prior to printing /signing.		
Tenant Income Certification (T	* For employment income, calculate the annualized periodic and the annualized YTD and use higher of two calculations.		
	* When total household assets are valued at \$5,000 or higher, TIC will choose the higher of the actual value or the imputed value		
	* If total household income falls at or below the maximum income allowable for the unit, the household is eligible for the affordable unit. If total household income is above the maximum income limit, the household is not eligible for an affordable unit. No exceptions to this are granted under any circumstances. The Office of Housing will never grant exceptions directly to applicants to relay to property staff.		
	* Property representative and applicants must sign ID and TIC prior to the lease being signed.		
	* Calculations and data entered entirely by property representative- applicants sign when complete.		
	* Retain all documentation on file for 6 years after move-out and for all applicants determined to be ineligible.		
4.) Sign Lease	* Property will be held accountable for income ineligible tenants who are not screened and placed in designated affordable units.		
Reporting	* Annual Property Certification Reports are due no later than 1/31, reporting information for the previous calander year January 1 - December 31.		
	* The Office of Housing will pursue remedies for any compliance issues identified during compliance period reported.		
Compliance Resources	* The MFTE, Incentive Zoning and Mandatory Housing Affordability Compliance Page is located at the webpage below. All updates, forms, and program information will be posted on this page. It is management's responsibility to keep up with updates and contact the MFTE/IZ/MHA Compliance Liaison if there are any questions or issues.		

http://www.seattle.gov/housing/property-managers/mfte-and-iz-compliance

Calculation	- Utility Allowance (see current schedule on webpage)
	- All non-optional recurring fees (regardless of source/purpose) = Adjusted Maximum Rent When base rent is at or below the Adjusted Maximum Rent , the property is in compliance with Incentive Program requirements. Property may then add in any optional fees, such as pet rent, storage, parking, etc.
Rent Calculation <u>Example</u>	Property has 75%AMI maximum for all income/rent restricted 1 BR units. Tenants are responsible for electricity and heat, are required to obtain renters insurance, pay King County Sewer Capacity Fee, and required to pay for wi-fi. Per the below calculation, the max rent that can be charged is \$1,601:
2022 75%AMI Max Rent	\$1,698
Utility Allowance	-\$35 (electricity and heat option per UA schedule)
KC Sewer Capacity Fee	-\$35 (example only, charge will vary)
Renter's Insurance	-\$17 (only factor in when required)
Required Internet	-\$10 (only factor in when required)
Adjusted Maximum Rent	\$1,601 [example only, other req. fees may reduce rent further]