

**WAC 173-98-330 Preconstruction category.** (1) An applicant will be considered for hardship funding when submitting a funding application if the service area population is twenty-five thousand or less and the MHI is less than eighty percent of the state MHI.

(2) If the service area population is different from the population of the applicant, the applicant must show that the hardship assistance is solely used to benefit the population of the service area.

(3) The most recent available American community survey data determines the MHI.

(4) If MHI data are not available for a community then the county MHI in which the community resides will be used.

(5) If the applicant disputes the data used by the department, the department may allow an applicant to conduct a scientific survey to determine the MHI for the project area.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 90.50A and 70.146 RCW. WSR 17-17-040 (Order 16-04), § 173-98-330, filed 8/9/17, effective 9/9/17. Statutory Authority: Chapter 90.50A RCW, RCW 90.48.035, and 43.21A.080. WSR 11-20-036 (Order 10-14), § 173-98-330, filed 9/27/11, effective 10/28/11.]