

# SMILE- Single Mom's Inspire Love Everywhere

## Grant Eligibility Rules

### 1. Application Status

Applicant must identify as a single woman, defined as:

- Not married and not living with a spouse or domestic partner
- Solely responsible for own household expenses
- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Must be the legal parent or guardian to at least one or more children under the age of 18

### 2. Income Requirements (Core Rule) 2024-2025 Income Guidelines

- Applicants must earn more than the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) for her household size.
- Applicants must earn less than a self-sufficiency threshold, meaning income is insufficient to reasonably meet basic living expenses
- Income Eligibility Range:  
Minimum: above 125% of the Federal Poverty Level  
Maximum: No more than 400% of the Federal Poverty Level (Exact percentage may be adjusted annually based on cost of living and funding availability)

Household size	Above 125% FPL	No more than 400% FPL
1	\$18,825	\$60,240
2	\$25,550	\$81,760
3	\$32,275	\$103,280
4	\$39,000	\$124,800

*This ensures applicants are not eligible for most government assistance programs yet still face financial strain.*

### 3. Government Assistance Ineligibility

Applicants must not currently qualify for or receive income-based government assistance, including but not limited to:

- TANF
- SNAP (food stamps)
- Housing subsidies (Section 8)

*Applicants may be required to self-attest or provide documentation confirming ineligibility.*

#### **4. Financial Hardship Criteria**

Applicants must demonstrate financial need despite earned income, such as:

- High Housing costs relative to income
- Medical expenses or ongoing healthcare costs
- Student loan or education debt
- Childcare costs (if applicable)
- Recent financial hardship (job change, reduced hours, emergency expenses)
- Living paycheck to paycheck with limited or no savings.

#### **5. Employment Status**

Applicants must be full-time or part-time or self-employed, contract-based or a small business owner.

Unemployment alone does not qualify unless paired with recent employment and documented transition period.

#### **6. Documentation requirements**

Applicants may be asked to provide:

- Proof of income (pay stubs, tax return or income statement)
- Monthly expense summary
- Written statement describing financial need
- Proof of household size

#### **7. Non-Discrimination Statement**

Grant eligibility and selection do not discriminate based on race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or geographic location.

#### **8. Selection & Award Disclaimer**

Meeting eligibility requirements does not guarantee a grant award. Single Mom's Inspire Love Everywhere reserve the sole discretion to determine grant recipients and is not obligated to award funding to all or any applicants.

# SMILE- Single Mom's Inspire Love Everywhere

## Income Eligibility Self Check

Collin County

**SMILE- Single Mom's Inspire Love Everywhere** provides charitable assistance to individuals who demonstrate financial need but do not qualify for most income-based government assistance programs. This self-check tool is intended to help applicants determine whether they may meet the program's income eligibility criteria.

### Step 1

Household size includes the applicant and any dependents for whom the applicant is financially responsible.

### Step 2

Applicants should calculate total gross household income before taxes, including but not limited to

Employment wages or salary

Self-employment or contract income

Child support or alimony

Other sources of income

### Step 3

Income eligibility guidelines (based on FPL in Collin County)

Household size	Above 125% FPL	No more than 400% FPL
1	\$18,825	\$60,240
2	\$25,550	\$81,760
3	\$32,275	\$103,280
4	\$39,000	\$124,800

Applicants whose income falls within this range may be considered for assistance subject to additional eligibility factors

### Step 4

Preliminary eligibility determination

Please select the statement that applies

My income is below the minimum income threshold, and I may qualify for government assistance

My income falls within the eligibility range, and I may be considered for this grant

My income exceeds the minimum income threshold and I am not eligible

## **SMILE- Single Mom's Inspire Love Everywhere**

### **Important compliance statements**

Grant assistance is provided solely for charitable purposes in accordance with Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and is intended to relieve financial hardships.

No guarantee of assistance

Meeting income guidelines or completing this self-check does not guarantee receipt of a grant. All awards are subject to review, verification, and available funding.

Discretion & Fairness

**SMILE- Single Mom's Inspire Love Everywhere** retains sole discretion in determining eligibility and award amounts using objective, non-discriminatory criteria. Grants may be awarded, reduced or withheld based on overall financial need, documentation provided and program priorities.

Annual Review & adjustment

Income thresholds and eligibility criteria may be updated annually to reflect changes in federal poverty guidelines, regional cost of living and organizational capacity.

Estimation Disclaimer

This calculator is provided for information purposes only and does not constitute a determination of eligibility. Final decisions are made after review of the complete application and supporting documentation.