

# Supreme Court of Kentucky

**2026-08**

## **ORDER**

**IN RE: ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES OF THE COURT OF JUSTICE, PART XV, SLIDING SCALE OF INDIGENCE**

Effective January 15, 2026, *nunc pro tunc*, Administrative Procedures of the Court of Justice, Part XV, Sliding Scale of Indigency, is amended as follows:

Under KRS 403.761(4)(a), KRS 431.517(4)(a), KRS 453.190(2), KRS 456.100(4)(a), and KRS 533.250(3)(a), the Supreme Court hereby adopts the following sliding scale of indigency:

<b>Federal Poverty Guidelines</b>	<b>Percentage Respondent is to Pay</b>
200%	100%
175%	75%
150%	50%
125%	25%
100%	0%

The Federal Poverty Guidelines are established annually by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The 2026 Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia may be found in the *Federal Register*, Vol. 91, No. 10, January 15, 2026, pp. 1797-1798, or as set forth below:

**2026 Federal Poverty Guidelines for the 48 Contiguous States**

<b>Persons in family</b>	<b>Persons in family</b>
1	\$15,960
2	\$21,640
3	\$27,320
4	\$33,000
5	\$38,680
6	\$44,360
7	\$50,040
8	\$55,720

For families with more than 8 persons, add \$5,680 for each additional person.

If a judge finds that the fee would impose an undue burden on the respondent, the judge may reduce or waive the fee. The sliding scale is intended only as a guideline for judges, who are encouraged to use discretion in applying the factors listed on Form AOC-275.14 when making an indigency determination.

This Order shall be effective January 15, 2026, *nunc pro tunc*, and until further Order of this Court.

All sitting; all concur.

ENTERED: February 16, 2026

  
Debra Hembree Lambert  
CHIEF JUSTICE