

## **CWRLF ARPA Wastewater Funds Affordability Criteria**

### **Median Household Income (maximum 80 points)**

#### **Collection system projects, CSO projects, and ENRCPP projects:**

DEQ has established guidelines for determining a reasonable sewer cost per household based on the median household income<sup>1</sup> (MHI) of the applicant. The reasonable sewer cost is calculated by multiplying the applicant's MHI by the appropriate percentage in the chart below:

Median Household Income of Applicant	Percentage of MHI Devoted to the Sewer Bill
\$0 - \$43,099	0.75%
\$43,100 - \$54,999	1.00%
\$55,000 - \$76,999	1.25%
\$77,000 and above	1.50%

Projects with existing sewer costs in excess of the reasonable cost will be given points under this affordability criterion as shown below:

Sewer Cost per Household Relative to Reasonable Cost	# Points
< 100%	0
100% to 125%	20
125% to 150%	40
150% to 175%	60
>175%	80

**Septic Projects:** The median household income will be determined for the location of each qualified applicant and each applicant will be given points as follows:

Median Household Income of Applicant	# of Points
\$0 - \$43,099	80
\$43,100 - \$54,999	60
\$55,000 - \$76,999	40
\$77,000 and above	20

### **Unemployment Rate (maximum 10 points)**

For all project types, the unemployment rate<sup>2</sup> (UR) will be determined for each qualified applicant and each applicant will be given points as follows:

Locality's Unemployment Rate	# Points
UR < Virginia UR	0
UR 0-3% above Virginia UR	5
UR > 3% above Virginia UR	10

### **Population Trends (maximum 10 points)**

For all project types, population data<sup>3</sup> for the previous 3-year period will be evaluated for each qualified applicant and each applicant will be given points as follows:

Change in Population	# Points
>+3%	0
0 to +3%	5
<0%	10

<sup>1</sup> Median Household Income for the applicant can be found on the U.S. Census Bureau website, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/PST045219>

<sup>2</sup> Unemployment rate for the applicant can be found on the website for the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, <https://data.bls.gov/lausmap/showMap.jsp>

<sup>3</sup> University of Virginia Weldon Cooper Center, Demographics Research Group. (2020). Virginia Population Estimates. Retrieved from <https://demographics.coopercenter.org/virginia-population-estimates>