

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

ACTIVITY

If Their Income Changed

What + Why: Discover how small life shifts can lead to big changes in taxes and access to government programs.

An individual's financial situation can change over time due to life events such as changes in employment, family responsibilities, or location. Consider how different situations can lead to different tax outcomes and access to government programs as you explore the scenarios in this activity.

Supporting Materials:

Government Programs & Criteria Reference List (previously provided)

Instructions:

1. With your group, review the three scenarios provided.
2. Refer to the **Government Programs & Qualification Criteria Reference List** to determine how the changes may affect program eligibility or taxes.
3. As a group, explain why the profile's eligibility may change, citing evidence from rules or income thresholds.

Be ready to share your group's reasoning during the class debrief.

Kiana's Job Loss

Kiana Thompson loses her job at Morning Grind Coffee Co. after the company permanently closes. How might this change Kiana's eligibility for government programs and/or unemployment insurance?

Raphael's New Dependent

Raphael Martinez and his spouse take in Raphael's four-year-old nephew, and they are now responsible for his living expenses. How does adding a new dependent to their household impact their eligibility for government programs?

Maya Relocated

Maya Patel currently lives and works in Miami, Florida, where there is no state income tax. Her job needs her to relocate to their home office in Baltimore, Maryland. Based on what you know, how might moving from a no-income-tax state to a state with income tax change Maya's take-home pay?