



ERCSA

On the Road Again

MAY 24 - 26, 2021

A
VIRTUAL
ROAD
TRIP

ERCSA WARS!

Rob Velcoff, host and writer

Ann Marie Oldani, helper



PRACTICE QUESTION

Title IV-__ of the Social Security Act deals with child support?

- A *Um, do I really need to show the answer?*
- B
- C
- D

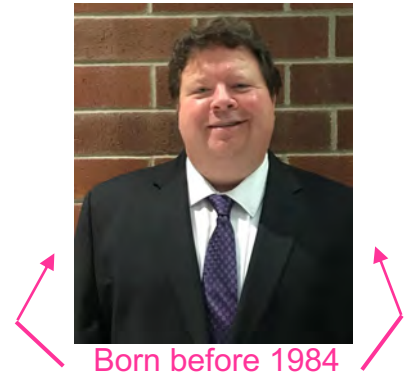
QUESTION #1

ERICSA held its very first conference in what year?

A: 1964

B: 1974

C: 1984



D: If you weren't born until after those years, you're way too young to be a seasoned child support professional, so it's a good thing you're taking this workshop!

ANSWER #1

A

ERICSA website: About Us, Organization, History

In 1963, the Council for State Governments could no longer sponsor the annual meetings and the Northeastern members decided to re-organize on a formal basis. At the 1964 annual conference in Hartford, Connecticut, the initial rules of the "Northeastern Regional Conference on URESA" were approved which was intended to provide aid and support of the national effort to provide for full utilization of URESA. The first executive committee was appointed and shortly thereafter in 1964, the Department of Health and Human Services requested assistance in developing a more purposeful location system as well as addressing other issues in child support.

www.ericso.org/history

QUESTION #2

How many IV-D cases nationwide had support orders established in 2019?

A: Just under 4 million

B: Just under 8 million

C: Just under 12 million

D: 3

1 2 3



ANSWER #2

C

OCSE FY 2019 Preliminary Report, Table P-64, Total Cases with Support Orders Established for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 98

There has been a steady decrease over the past five years:

- 2015 = 12,613,822
- 2016 = 12,537,234
- 2017 = 12,384,637
- 2018 = 12,168,067
- 2019 = 11,913,254

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/fy_2019_preliminary_data_report.pdf

QUESTION #3

After receipt of an applicable notice of income, how many business days does a state have to issue an IWO?

A: 2 days

B: 5 days

C: 10 days

D: 666 days – my favorite number!
(What does that tell you about me?!?)



ANSWER #3

A

CFR §307.11(c)(1)(i), Functional requirements for computerized support enforcement systems in operation

(c) Collection and Disbursement of Support Payments. To the maximum extent feasible, assist and facilitate the collection and disbursement of support payments through the State disbursement unit operated under section 454B of the Act through the performance of functions which, at a minimum, include the following: (1) Transmission of orders and notices to employers and other debtors for the withholding of income: (i) Within 2 business days after receipt of notice of income, and the income source subject to withholding from a court, another State, an employer, the Federal Parent Locator Service, or another source recognized by the State; and (ii) Using uniform formats prescribed by the Secretary.

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=8e94cd80067dc709f70b6de6cdd6cc98&mc=true&node=pt45.3.307&rgn=div5#se45.3.307_111

QUESTION #4

A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) seeks to provide states with the flexibility to incorporate in their child support guidelines two optional exceptions to the prohibition against treating incarceration as voluntary unemployment. Which of these is NOT an exception?

A: When the individual is incarcerated due to intentional nonpayment of child support.

B: For any incarceration that is less than 180 days.

C: For any offense of which the individual's dependent child or the child support recipient was a victim.

D: If the NCP is incarcerated in a facility that serves ketchup on their hot dogs for lunch. I hate that – use mustard like a normal person!



NOT A
VALID
ANSWER!

ANSWER #4

B

NPRM - Optional Exceptions to the Child Support Guidelines, AT-20-12, published September 23, 2020

This Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) proposes to provide states with the flexibility to incorporate in their child support guidelines two optional exceptions to the prohibition against treating incarceration as voluntary unemployment. The proposed exceptions are:

1. When the individual is incarcerated due to intentional nonpayment of child support.
2. For any offense of which the individual's dependent child or the child support recipient was a victim.

The state may apply the exception to the individual's other child support cases.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/nprm-optional-exceptions-child-support-guidelines>

QUESTION #5

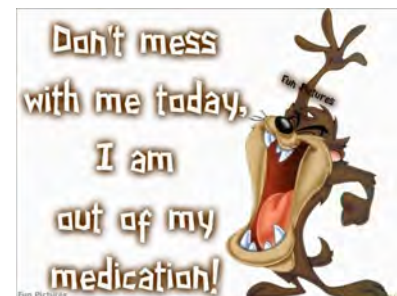
States are required to submit the Annual Certification Letter to the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement. The certification letter verifies that the information meets the legal requirements for all of the following EXCEPT ...

A: the Multistate Financial Institution Data Match

B: federal offset and passport denial

C: the federal insurance match

D: The host is messing with you,
because all three of these answers are correct.



ANSWER #5

D

Federal Collections & Enforcement Annual Certification Letter – 2020, DCL-20-08, published September 2, 2020

States are required to submit the Annual Certification Letter to the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement. The certification letter verifies that your information meets the legal requirements for federal offset, passport denial, multistate financial institution data match, and federal insurance match. It also indicates your preferences regarding mailing pre-offset notices, holding periods, and contact information.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/federal-collections-enforcement-annual-certification-letter-2020>

QUESTION #6

Last summer OCSE awarded \$8.7 million to eight child support programs for what purpose?

A: For providing genetic testing at alternative sites due to ongoing pandemic limitations.

B: To develop responsible parenting and economic mobility interventions for teens and young adults.

C: To provide training and resource programs to assist U.S. military veterans.

D: So they could afford to hire Rob Velcoff to do game show plenaries at their annual conferences.



ANSWER #6



\$8.7 million Awarded to Develop Responsible Parenting and Economic Mobility Interventions for Teens and Young Adults, dated August 31, 2020

The Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families (ACF) awarded \$8.7 million to eight child support agencies to develop nine programs that educate teens and young adults about the financial, legal, and emotional responsibilities of parenthood. The agencies will collaborate with youth job development programs, foster care transition services, juvenile justice agencies, teen pregnancy prevention programs, community colleges and public schools to integrate child support and responsible parenting education into a wide range of youth centered systems.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/media/press/2020/ocse-awards-millions-develop-responsible-parenting-and-economic-mobility>

QUESTION #7

Section 452(a)(4)(C)(i) of the Social Security Act requires OCSE's Office of Audit (OA) to conduct audits of states and territories to determine the reliability of the performance standards used to calculate incentive payments at least how often?

A: Annually

B: Once every three years

C: Once every five years

D: Only in years where McDonald's reintroduces the McRib sandwich



ANSWER #7

B

Data Reliability Audit Requirements FY 2020, DCL-20-11, published October 1, 2020

Section 452(a)(4)(C)(i) of the Social Security Act requires OCSE's Office of Audit (OA) to conduct audits of states and territories at least once every three years to determine the reliability of the performance standards used to calculate incentive payments. OA evaluates the completeness, reliability, and security of performance indicator data reported by the states and the accuracy of the reporting systems used in calculating the performance indicators. This requires electronic files from each state that contain the complete, unduplicated child support case universe as of September 30, 2020, including:

- All open IV-D cases
- Closed cases
- Non-IV-D cases
- Audit trails for each line on the OCSE-157 used to compute performance indicators

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/data-reliability-audit-requirements-fy-2020>

QUESTION #8

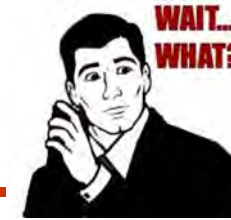
Can a responding state IV-D agency refuse to accept an interstate case referral for establishment of an order if, in their opinion, the initiating state has “long-arm” jurisdiction to establish an order?

A: No, a responding state IV-D agency may not refuse to accept such a request.

B: Yes, unless the initiating state provides detailed information about failed long-arm establishment efforts.

C: Maybe, as each state must provide information about their options regarding this item in their annual state plan.

D: Only if the initiating state doesn't know what year the War of 1812 was fought in.



ANSWER #8

A

Updated Interstate Child Support Policy, AT-20-14, published November 18, 2020

A responding state IV-D agency may not refuse to accept an interstate IV-D case referral, sometimes called a two-state request, for order establishment because it believes that the initiating state could exercise long-arm jurisdiction. Federal regulations at 45 CFR §303.7(c)(3) provide that the initiating state IV-D agency is responsible for determining if its use of one-state remedies, such as long-arm jurisdiction, is appropriate. The responding state agency may not “second-guess” the decision of the initiating state agency. Federal regulations under 45 CFR §303.7(d)(1) require the responding state IV-D agency to “accept and process an intergovernmental request for services, regardless of whether the initiating agency elected not to use remedies that may be available under the law of that [the initiating agency’s] jurisdiction.”

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/interstate_child_support_policy.pdf

QUESTION #9

A recent study compared the prevalence of joint physical custody of children in 37 countries. Where did the U.S. rank in this category compared to the rest of the world?

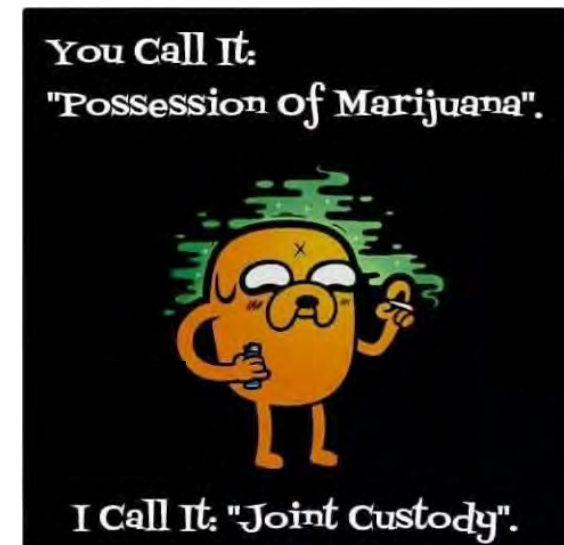


A: the U.S. ranked in the top third

B: the U.S. ranked in the middle third

C: the U.S. ranked in the bottom third

D: is the term “joint custody” really just another way of saying “marijuana possession”?



ANSWER #9

B

Child Support, Shared Care, and Inequality between Ex-Partners in 11 Countries: chart on page 6: “Prevalence of symmetric joint physical custody in 37 countries from Steinbach, Augustijn & Corkadi (2020)”

Sweden = 20.9%, Belgium = 13.5%, Iceland = 11.7%, Denmark = 9.5%, Canada = 9.5%, Norway = 8.8%, Netherlands = 7.5%, France = 7.2%, U.K. = 6.6%, Ireland = 6.6%, Spain = 5.4%, Finland = 5.2%, Israel = 5.0%, **USA = 4.9%**, Czech Rep = 4.3, Slovenia = 4.2%, Austria = 3.9%, Greece = 3.6%, Germany = 3.6%, Switzerland = 3.5%, Portugal = 3.2%, Luxembourg = 3.0%, Italy = 2.8%, Hungary = 2.5%, Bulgaria = 2.4%, Latvia = 2.4%, Estonia = 2.3%, Slovakia = 2.3%, Croatia = 2.1%, Poland = 1.9%, Turkey = 1.7%, Macedonia = 1.6%, Ukraine = 1.2%, Greenland = 1.1%, Russia = 0.9%, Armenia = 0.8%, Romania = 0.3%.

Study available upon request.

QUESTION #10

Which one of these is NOT a mandatory data element when making a submittal to the State PLS or the Federal PLS?

PLS

A: The parent's, putative father's or non-parent relative's date of birth (if known).

TRICKY

B: The parent's, putative father's or non-parent relative's SSN (if known).

C: The parent's, putative father's or non-parent relative's name.

D: The host is tricky-tricky, because these are all required.

ANSWER #10

A

CFR §303.70, Procedures for submissions to the State Parent Locator Service (State PLS) or the Federal Parent Locator Service (Federal PLS)

(d) All submittals shall contain the following information: (1) The parent's, putative father's or non-parent relative's name; (2) The parent's or putative father's Social Security Number (SSN). If the SSN is unknown, the IV-D program must make reasonable efforts to ascertain the individual's SSN before making a submittal to the Federal PLS; and (3) The non-parent relative's SSN, if known. (4) Any other information prescribed by the Office.

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=8b19f0e225fe75ff5367ab095293126e&mc=true&node=se45.3.303_170&rgn=div8

QUESTION #11

In FY 2019, what percentage of child support collections went directly to families?

A: 83.2%

B: 88.9%

C: 93.5%

D: It's a much higher percentage than the choice D options which have been funny so far!



ANSWER #11

C

OCSE FY 2019 Preliminary Report, Table P-1, Financial Overview for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 7

2019 payments to families or foster care = \$26,889,982,868

2019 total distributed collections = \$28,767,185,944

QUESTION #12

How many days does a IV-D agency have to provide any order and payment record information requested for a controlling order determination and reconciliation of arrearages?

A: 10 working days

B: 30 working days

C: 60 working days

D: I know of one jurisdiction who apparently thinks the answer is 365 days (FYI – they're WRONG!)



ANSWER #12

B

CFR §303.7, Provision of services in intergovernmental IV-D cases

Provision of services in intergovernmental IV-D cases. (a) *General responsibilities.* A State IV-D agency must: (6) Within 30 working days of receiving a request, provide any order and payment record information requested by a State IV-D agency for a controlling order determination and reconciliation of arrearages, or notify the State IV-D agency when the information will be provided.

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=f4bc1b07cb2d1b98709cf996a7cb493b&mc=true&node=se45.3.303_17&rgn=div8

QUESTION #13

Which of the following is NOT a required data element for paternity establishment affidavits?

A: Hospital of Birth

B: Legal Finding (60 day rescission)

C: Rights and Responsibilities,
Alternatives and Consequences

D: On an unrelated note ... the paternity
test came back negative.



ANSWER #13

A

Required Data Elements for Paternity Establishment Affidavits, AT-21-01, published February 8, 2021

Required Data Elements: 1. Current Full Name (mother, father and child) 2. Social Security Number (mother and father) 3. Date of Birth (mother, father and child) 4. Address (mother and father) 5. Birthplace - child (city, county & state) 6. Legal Finding (60 day rescission) 7. Rights and Responsibilities, Alternatives and Consequences 8. Signature Lines for Parents 9. Notary Seals/Witnesses: Signature Lines. There are many optional data elements as well.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/required-data-elements-paternity-establishment-affidavits-expires-1/31/2024>

QUESTION #14

During the last five federal fiscal years, total IV-D caseloads nationwide decreased by how much?

A: 2.1%

B: 4.2%

C: 8.4%

D: 90% of all statistics quoted to prove a point are made up on the spot.



ANSWER #14

C

OCSE FY 2019 Preliminary Report, Table P-52, Total Caseload for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 58

Total IV-D caseloads:

- 2015 – 14,744,538
- 2016 – 14,522,408
- 2017 – 14,228,533
- 2018 – 13,923,541
- 2019 – 13,604,791

QUESTION #15

How does the proposed Increasing Opportunity for Former Foster Youth Act (S. 3025) improve the child support program?



- A: It permits administrative change of payee procedures when a child leaves a parent's household and enters foster care.
- B: The bill provides for education, employment, and training for NCPs who have children in the IV-E system.
- C: The bill gives states the option to ask HHS to transmit freeze and seize requests for assets located across state lines.
- D: As a baby the man's parents used to bathe him in cheap Australian beer, and it wasn't until he was older that he realized he'd been Fostered.



ANSWER #15

C

116th Congress, 1st Session, S. 3025

The measure includes a provision providing basic information on independent contractors so that the child support program may locate them and establish or revise support orders when appropriate. The bill also gives states the option to ask the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to transmit requests to freeze or seize assets in financial institutions located across state lines, assisting states to collect past-due support owed both to struggling families and state and federal governments. Finally, the legislation reduces the burden on small banks located in one state by allowing them to access the same system multi-state banks use to identify those individuals who owe child support. This provision not only increases efficiency for these important partners in the child support program, but also reduces administrative burden on state programs so they can spend more time and resources working directly with families.

<https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/s3025/BILLS-116s3025is.pdf>

QUESTION #16

Thirty-five states, Guam and Puerto Rico authorize interest charges for child support arrears. Some of these states determine the percentage based on market factors or other information. What percentage number is used by more states than any other standard amount?

A: 4% per annum

B: 6% per annum

C: 10% per annum

D: I used to care a lot about this question but I lost interest.

What's an
"annum"?



ANSWER #16

B

NCSL, Child Support, Interest on Child Support Arrears

Thirty-five states, Guam and Puerto Rico authorize interest charges for child support arrears. Many charge interest at set rates per year:

- 12% per annum: Colorado, Kentucky and Washington
- 10% per annum: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Iowa and Wyoming
- 9% per annum: Illinois, New York and Oregon
- 6% per annum: Alaska, Guam, Maine, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia and Wisconsin
- 4% per annum: Minnesota and New Mexico
- Dependent on Market Factors: Florida, Michigan, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Ohio & Puerto Rico.
- Other: Alabama, Georgia, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Dakota and West Virginia.

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/interest-on-child-support-arrears.aspx>

QUESTION #17

Why is it necessary to have patent, copyright, ownership, and confidentiality clauses in contracts used in tribal IV-D programs?

A: To ensure that all legally required federal timeframes are adhered to.

B: So that all Federal Financial Participation (FFP) provisions are clearly marked and identified.

C: These provisions help protect tribes from the loss and unauthorized use and disclosure of information or products used or developed under a tribal IV-D contract.

D: My favorite word is “confidential”, but I can’t tell you why.



ANSWER #17

C

Tribal Property and Uniform Cost Principles, IM-20-05,
published July 9, 2020

In addition to meeting the federal requirements, patent, copyright, ownership, and confidentiality provisions help protect tribes from the loss and unauthorized use and disclosure of information or products used or developed under a tribal IV-D contract. For example, these provisions will ensure that tribes obtain access to working papers, own products or data developed for them, and have the required safeguards for confidential information. Therefore, we recommend that tribes develop standard language to include these provisions in their contracts and procurement policies and procedures. Tribal IV-D programs should review the property standards requirements contained in 45 CFR §75.316 through §75.325.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/tribal-property-and-uniform-cost-principles>

QUESTION #18

The United States Postal Service Work Number (800-996-7566) provides what child support information?

A: Last known address for noncustodial parents

B: Employment information for NCPs who are employed by the USPS

C: Complete mailing addresses for noncustodial parents who use a P.O. Box

D: I just bought 20 stamps and said: "Am I supposed to stick all these on myself?"
Postal clerk: "No. Stick them on the envelopes."



ANSWER #18

B

USPS Contact Information for Child Support Agencies, IM-20-04, published April 9, 2020

The United States Postal Service (USPS) has provided updated contact information for child support-related requests and questions. Child support agencies should contact The Work Number (TALX) at 800-996-7566 (TTY: 800-424-0253) to request employment or income information. If you cannot obtain the information needed from The Work Number, you can mail or fax a request.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/usps-contact-information-child-support-agencies>

QUESTION #19

What is the name of the OCSE initiative that highlights successful NCP employment programs in various jurisdictions?

ERICSA

A: Knowledge Works! (KW!)

B: All-Team Employment Plus (ATEP)

C: Staff Pulse Work Services (SPWS)

D: Employment Resources for Income Capital Sustainable Expertise (ERICSA – hey, we all know the child support program loves to double up on those acronyms!)



ANSWER #19

A

Knowledge Works! Resources for Child Support-Led Employment Services, OCSE

If you are a child support agency interested in implementing or enhancing a noncustodial parent employment program, OCSE can help. We believe the option to implement noncustodial parent employment services is a good strategy to increase participation in the workforce, improve compliance with court-ordered child support payments, and provide low-income Americans with a path out of poverty to financial self-sufficiency. The Knowledge Works! initiative highlights successful programs in other jurisdictions. We also provide documents and access to OCSE subject matter experts to support your program in these areas: – Assessment – Planning – Implementation – Funding – Development

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/employment-programs>

QUESTION #20

During the last five federal fiscal years, distributed child support collections in the U.S. ...

A: Increased by 0.7%

B: Decreased by 1.1%

C: Decreased by 5.7%

D: According to recent surveys, 51% of the people are in the majority.



ANSWER #20

A

OCSE FY 2019 Preliminary Report, Table P-1, Financial Overview for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 7

Total distributed collections:

- 2015 – \$28,559,134,175
- 2016 – \$28,834,212,099
- 2017 – \$28,625,294,083
- 2018 – \$28,584,372,594
- 2019 – \$28,767,185,944

QUESTION #21

How many days does a state IV-D agency have to send an application to a party who requests it in writing or over the phone?

A: 2 working days

B: 14 calendar days

C: 5 working days

D: If I'm asleep at my desk, does that count as a "working day"? Remember, a healthy sleep not only makes you live longer, but it also shortens the workday.



ANSWER #21

C

CFR §303.2(a)(2) – Establishment of Cases & Maintenance of Case Records

(2) When an individual requests an application or IV-D services, provide an application to the individual on the day the individual makes a request in person or send an application to the individual within no more than 5 working days of a written or telephone request. Information describing available services, the individual's rights and responsibilities, and the State's fees, cost recovery and distribution policies must accompany all applications for services and must be provided to title IV-A, Medicaid and title IV-E foster care applicants or recipients within no more than 5 working days of referral to the IV-D agency.

http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-id?SID=db49a8ae5be278531eea816e4d06d115&mc=true&node=se45.2.303_12&rgn=div8

QUESTION #22

The poverty rate for children who live apart from a parent is about how many times greater than that of children who live with both parents?

A: 2 times

B: 3 times

C: 4 times

D: If your parents never had children, chances are you won't either.



ANSWER #22

B

OCSE Chirp – Census releases report on custodial parents, dated June 10, 2020

The poverty rate for children who live apart from a parent is about three times that of children who live with both parents. Learn more in the Census Bureau's latest report on custodial mothers and fathers.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/news/census-releases-report-custodial-parents>

QUESTION #23

Which one of these is an exception to the
“Play Away” rule of UIFSA §611?

UIFSA

A: The CP and NCP agree in writing for the petitioner's state to exercise modification jurisdiction.

B: Where the individual parties reside in the same state, that state may modify the controlling order of another state.

C: The issuing tribunal has authority to modify its order if one party now resides in another state and the other party resides outside the United States. **AOTA**

D: AOTA, a new acronym because the child support program doesn't have enough of them, which means "all of the above."

ANSWER #23

D

UIFSA §611, Modification of Child-Support Order of Another State

(a) If Section 613 does not apply, upon [petition] a tribunal of this state may modify a child-support order issued in another state which is registered in this state if, after notice and hearing, the tribunal finds that: (1) the following requirements are met: (A) neither the child, nor the obligee who is an individual, nor the obligor resides in the issuing state; (B) a [petitioner] who is a nonresident of this state seeks modification; and (C) the [respondent] is subject to the personal jurisdiction of the tribunal of this state; or (2) this state is the State of residence of the child, or a party who is an individual is subject to the personal jurisdiction of the tribunal of this state, and all of the parties who are individuals have filed consents in a record in the issuing tribunal for a tribunal of this state to modify the support order and assume continuing, exclusive jurisdiction.

<https://www.uniformlaws.org/HigherLogic/System/DownloadDocumentFile.ashx?DocumentFileKey=e12481bd-ac36-07ba-7d64-7841e9db5e09&forceDialog=0>

QUESTION #24

Which group is the largest generation of debtors in the child support program?

A: Millennials (ages 23 – 38)

B: Generation X (ages 39 – 54)

C: Baby Boomers and Older (ages 55+)

D: Generation Z (< 23) (If they can turn off their cell phones and video games long enough to be a part of this question.)



ANSWER #24

B

OCSE, Millennials in Child Support Program, published November 10, 2020

We also examined noncustodial parents who owed arrears that had been certified by OCSE's Federal Offset program and the amount of certified arrears that they owed by generation. Using data from OCSE's Debtor File, Figure 2 shows that, as of January 2020, Generation X was the largest generation of noncustodial parents who owed certified arrears, referred to as debtors, representing 47% of all debtors and owing 56% of total certified arrears. Millennials represented 38% of debtors and owed 22% of total certified arrears. Baby Boomers and older debtors represented only 14% of debtors, but they also owed 22% of total certified arrears, the same as millennials. The average amount of certified arrears owed by Baby Boomers and older debtors was \$33,911 compared to \$12,526 among millennials.

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/millennials_in_child_support_program.pdf

QUESTION #25

During a public health emergency (i.e., COVID-19 pandemic), under what circumstances can a state choose to suppress or suspend enforcement actions on state owned arrears cases?

A: Under Title IV-D of the SSA, requirements for enforcement remedies may distinguish between enforcement against arrears that are due a CP and arrears that are assigned to the state.

B: It is dependent on the specific enforcement tool the state wants to suppress, such as UIB garnishments.

C: For orders with only state-assigned arrears, states may explore flexibilities under their state arrears management programs.



D: Wow, this is a terrific question! I can't wait to see the correct answer. So everyone choose an answer really fast!

ANSWER #25

C

COVID-19: Frequently Asked Questions for Child Support Programs, OCSE

OCSE is providing FAQs about the operational, administrative, programmatic, and other challenges facing child support programs affected by the public health emergency due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. OCSE recognizes that many of the operational impacts and costs are unknowable at this point, as they will depend on the spread of the coronavirus and response dictated by public health needs. Its top priority is the public health and safety of everyone. OCSE has sorted questions by topic and will continue adding new FAQs as necessary. Note the review date at the bottom for updates.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/covid-19-faqs-child-support-programs>

QUESTION #26

Which child support guidelines model is used by the most states?



A: The Income Shares Model

B: The Percentage of Income Model

C: The Melson Formula

D: America's Top Model

The
answer
should
be "D".



ANSWER #26

A

Child Support Guideline Models, National Conference of State Legislatures, 7/10/2020

States generally use one of three models to determine the base child support amount due. Explanations of each model and the states that use them follow. The **Income Shares Model** is based on the concept that the child should receive the same proportion of parental income that he or she would have received if the parents lived together. In an intact household, the income of both parents is generally pooled and spent for the benefit of all household members, including any children. Forty-three states and territories use the income shares model. The **Percentage of Income Model** sets support as a percentage of only the noncustodial parent's income; the custodial parent's income is not considered. This model has two variations: the Flat Percentage Model and the Varying Percentage Model. Six states use the percentage of income model. The **Melson Formula** is a more complicated version of the Income Shares Model, which incorporates several public policy judgments designed to ensure that each parent's basic needs are met in addition to the children's. Only three states use the Melson Formula.

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/guideline-models-by-state.aspx>

QUESTION #27

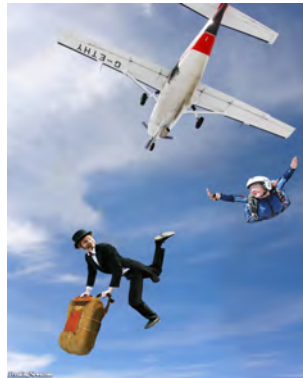
What is the name of the form that insurers and third-party processors must complete in order to obtain information from the OCSE Portal?



A: the Insurance Match Debt Inquiry Agreement & Profile form

B: the Title Insurance Match Request form

C: the Insurance Certificate Claim Registration form



D: Needing insurance is like needing a parachute. If it isn't there the first time, chances are you won't be needing it again.

ANSWER #27

A

Insurance Match Debt Inquiry Agreement and Profile Form for Child Support Portal Registration, OMB 0970-0370, published September 23, 2020

Insurers and third-party processors must complete the Insurance Match Debt Inquiry Agreement and Profile form to register and use the Insurance Match Debt Inquiry application. The Insurance Match Debt Inquiry application offers an easy and efficient way for insurers to notify most child support agencies about upcoming payments to claimants to determine if they owe child support.

- Use the application to make individual inquiries or upload files containing information about upcoming payments to claimants.
- The application compares the information submitted to individuals who owe child support.
- Child support agencies in participating states receive matches.
- When appropriate, agencies contact the insurer to withhold from the payment.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/form/insurance-match-debt-inquiry-agreement-and-profile-form>

QUESTION #28

The federal Office of the Inspector General (OIG) may be asked by state or local child support agencies to investigate child support cases that may involve which of the following situations?

- A: The NCP willfully fails to pay child support for more than 3 years, and the state where the child lives is different from the state where the noncustodial parent lives.
- B: The amount the noncustodial parent owes is more than \$10,000, and the state where the child lives is different from the state where the noncustodial parent lives.
- C: The noncustodial parent travels to another state or country to avoid paying child support.
- D: Any case that just so happens to involve this guy:



ANSWER #28

C

Office of Inspector General, Child Support Enforcement

Parents who fail to pay court-ordered support for the care of their children put an unnecessary strain on the custodial parent and the children, as well as on agencies that are tasked with enforcing these matters. Although most child support cases fall under State and local jurisdiction, the Office of Inspector General (OIG) plays an important role in investigating particular cases regarding parents who fail to pay court-ordered child support. Upon referral from state or local agencies, OIG may be asked by these agencies to investigate child support cases that may involve the following situations:

- the noncustodial parent willfully fails to pay child support for more than 1 year, and the State where the child lives is different from the State where the noncustodial parent lives;
- the amount the noncustodial parent owes is more than \$5,000, and the State where the child lives is different from the State where the noncustodial parent lives; or
- the noncustodial parent travels to another State or country to avoid paying child support.

<https://oig.hhs.gov/fraud/child-support-enforcement/>

QUESTION #29

Late in 2020 OCSE set forth federal policy for preparing a streamlined feasibility study associated with which of these efforts by states and territories?



A: Revision of the child support program audit regulations

B: Child support enforcement system modernization efforts

C: Final Rule provisions for services in interstate cases

D: Requirements to send ten times more attendees than usual to the 2022 ERICSA conference in New Orleans

ANSWER #29

B

Streamlined Feasibility Study for Child Support System Modernization, AT-20-16, published December 16, 2020

The Streamlined Feasibility Study Guide supports efforts to determine the most effective, efficient, and cost reasonable solutions to modernize a statewide system, while meeting the essential requirements for project approval and subsequent Federal Financial Participation. This comprehensive guidance provides an alternative approach that will enable states to summarize the results of their internal analyses – which includes a ‘very light-weight’ analysis of alternatives, cost-benefit analysis, risk analysis, and preferred solution – into a single document that may be less than 50 pages in length.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/streamlined-feasibility-study-child-support-system-modernization>

QUESTION #30

Each year, OCSE provides \$10 million in mandatory grant funding to states and territories to operate the Access and Visitation (AV) program. Who currently receives these services?

A: More than 13,000 parents & guardians participate in AV program services, thereby affecting over 25,000 children.

B: More than 93,000 parents & guardians participate in AV program services, thereby affecting over 100,000 children.

C: More than 183,000 parents & guardians participate in AV program services, thereby affecting over 200,000 children.

D: Two guys named Ralph and Rölf. 😊 😊

ANSWER #30

B

Access and Visitation Mandatory Grant Program, A Look Inside OCSE - Story Series, published March 28, 2019

OCSE provides annual funding for states and territories to operate the mandatory Access and Visitation Grant program. Each year, OCSE provides \$10 million in mandatory grant funding to states and territories to operate the Access and Visitation (AV) program. Legally, it's designed to fund services to help noncustodial parents spend more time with their children. In most states and territories, it's administered by the child support agency. Putting oversight of the AV program within the child support agency increases the likelihood that AV services reach parents in the child support program. We're working with multiple states to expand availability for these parents.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/access-and-visitation-mandatory-grant-program>

QUESTION #31

As of last year how many states/territories pass through at least some of the child support paid by the NCP to their TANF recipients?

A: 44

B: 36

C: 28



D: As I was *passing through* India the other day the Dalai Lama told me the meaning of life: “Accept that some days you’re the pigeon, and some days you’re the statue.”

ANSWER #31

C

Child Support Pass-Through and Disregard Policies for Public Assistance Recipients, National Conference of State Legislatures, 5/29/2020

Under federal law, families receiving public assistance, known as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), must cooperate with child support establishment and enforcement efforts. In addition, TANF recipients must assign their rights to child support payments to the state. When a state collects child support on behalf of a TANF recipient, the state is permitted to keep the money to reimburse itself and the federal government for TANF assistance. States, however, have the option of allowing some of the child support payment to be passed through to the parent and child and disregarded when determining TANF assistance, meaning the amount would not be considered income for purposes of determining TANF eligibility.

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/state-policy-pass-through-disregard-child-support.aspx>

QUESTION #32

Which state received the largest amount of the Federal share of administrative expenses for the past five consecutive fiscal years?



A: California

B: New York

C: Texas



D: Hint: this state has nearly double the child support staff than the next closest state, and their state bug is the dogface butterfly!



ANSWER #32

A

OCSE FY 2019 Preliminary Report, Table P-44, Federal Share of Administrative Expenditures for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 50

Here are the top three states (all other states received less than \$175,000,000 in 2019):

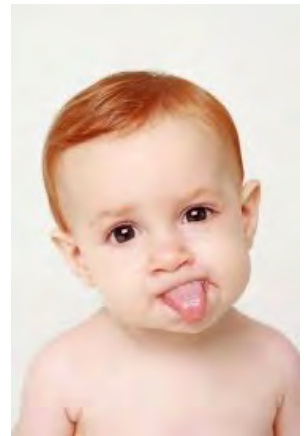
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
CALIFORNIA	\$588,734,225	\$606,413,591	\$612,215,599	\$620,016,288	\$633,747,730
NEW YORK	\$231,107,760	\$217,327,183	\$218,392,665	\$226,873,783	\$221,657,791
TEXAS	\$166,285,572	\$193,705,963	\$221,174,960	\$230,640,439	\$197,978,298

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/fy_2019_preliminary_data_report.pdf

QUESTION #33

When establishing paternity, which one of the following is NOT required by all states?

- A: Provide an alleged father the opportunity to voluntarily acknowledge paternity.
- B: Attempt to establish paternity by legal process established under State law.
- C: Allow for an exclusionary hearing upon request.
- D: Deny paternity of a redheaded child if the NCP has brown hair and the CP has blonde hair.



← NOT A
VALID
ANSWER!

ANSWER #33

C

CFR §303.5, Establishment of paternity

Establishment of paternity. (a) For all cases referred to the IV-D agency or applying for services under §302.33 of this chapter in which paternity has not been established, the IV-D agency must, as appropriate: (1) Provide an alleged father the opportunity to voluntarily acknowledge paternity in accordance with §302.70(a)(5)(iii); and (2) Attempt to establish paternity by legal process established under State law.

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=f4bc1b07cb2d1b98709cf996a7cb493b&mc=true&node=se45.3.303_15&rgn=div8

QUESTION #34

Along with organizing an annual training conference, ERICSA also does which of the following?

- A: Ensures effective implementation of federal and state family support laws.
- B: Recommends changes to family support legislation and regulations.
- C: Improves communication and cooperation between states to enhance interstate case processing.
- D: I have no idea, so I flipped a coin and it landed on D, which means all of the above.

Join ERICSA Today!



ANSWER #34

D

ERICSA About Us

The Eastern Regional Interstate Child Support Association (ERICSA) is comprised of child support professionals at the federal, state and local levels from the public and private sectors. All members of the Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Honorary Board are dues- paying members of the organization and volunteer their time to:

- Organize an annual training conference;
- Ensure effective implementation of federal and state family support laws;
- Recommend changes to family support legislation and regulations;
- Improve communication and cooperation between states to enhance interstate case processing.

ERICSA also recognizes Life Members, former Board members who have served their terms, but wish to remain a part of the organization. Through Honorary Resolutions, ERICSA recognizes individuals who have supported ERICSA and the child support program.

<https://ericsa.org/about-us>

QUESTION #35

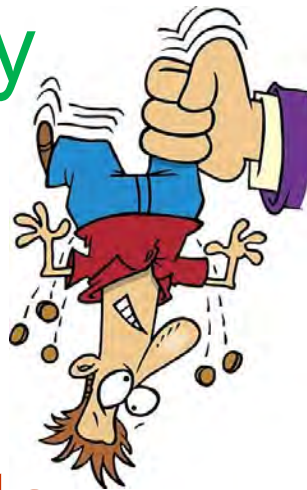
What is the name of the statute that authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to collect past-due child support by the administrative offset of federal payments?

A: the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (DCIA)

B: the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA)

C: the Internal Revenue Code Federal Tax Law of 1996 (IRCFTL)

D: the Personal Actuarial Yield – Unilateral Payments – National Organization Workplace (PAY-UP-NOW)



ANSWER #35

A

Bureau of the Fiscal Service, Treasury Offset Program,
Child Support Program

The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (DCIA) authorizes the Secretary of the Treasury to collect past-due child support by the administrative offset of federal payments.

<https://www.fiscal.treasury.gov/top/child-support-program.html>

QUESTION #36

The National Conference of State Legislatures authored a recent article entitled “Child Support Policies: Implications for Low-Income Fathers and Their Children.” Which of these was a major point in the article?

- A: Regular child support payments result in families staying together longer.
- B: Regular child support payments led to fewer instances of domestic violence.
- C: Regular child support payments improve children’s educational outcomes.
- D: Regular child support payments lead to child support workers smiling more.



ANSWER #36

C

Child Support Policies: Implications for Low-Income Fathers and Their Children, National Conference of State Legislatures, 1/25/2021

Nationwide, the child support program serves one-fifth of all U.S. children and one-third of all U.S. children in poor families – totaling 14.7 million children. For families with child support orders, child support is one of the largest sources of income. Research shows regular child support payments reduce child poverty, promote parental responsibility and involvement, and improve children's educational outcomes. State child support agencies are positioned to help low-income fathers meet their child support obligations. Agencies can increase child support payments from low-income fathers by positively engaging them from the birth of their children, encouraging them to continue being involved in their children's lives and helping them overcome obstacles to supporting their children. Realistic child support orders, debt reduction strategies and employment-oriented programs for low-income fathers have led to increased child support payments.

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/how-child-support-affects-low-income-fathers.aspx>

QUESTION #37

Do current IRS statutes allow for disclosure of FTI directly to tribal child support enforcement agencies?



A: Yes, as the same laws that pertain to state IV-D agencies also apply to tribal IV-D agencies.

B: Yes, but only under certain circumstances, as there is currently language being proposed that would redefine a state child support agency to include tribal entities.

C: No, and the Office of Safeguards is requiring states to remediate the unauthorized disclosure to tribal entities and stop sharing FTI without proper authority.



D: Go ahead and do it anyway; who's afraid of the IRS?!?

ANSWER #37

C

Internal Revenue Service, Child Support Resources, Guidance for States with Tribal CSEAs

Current IRS statutes do not allow for disclosure of FTI to tribal child support enforcement agencies. The findings for re-disclosing FTI will no longer be held in abeyance. The Office of Safeguards is requiring states to remediate the unauthorized disclosure to tribal entities and stop sharing FTI without proper authority. While there is currently language being proposed that would redefine a state child support agency to include tribal entities, there is no date when this change may make it to a legislative update. In the interim, Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) and Safeguards are working to find alternatives that would allow tribal entities to continue their child support enforcement efforts either without FTI or as a contractor of the state agency. At this time, Safeguards is requesting no further filings of Safeguard Security Reports, Corrective Action Plans (CAP) or 45 Day Notifications by tribal entities. Safeguards recommends that tribal agencies continue to remediate findings in their CAPs to enhance the security of all data in their possession.

<https://www.irs.gov/privacy-disclosure/child-support-resources>

QUESTION #38

What is the name of the federal law that first created new categories of federal felonies for the most egregious child support violators?



A: the Child Support Recovery Act of 1992 (CSRA)

B: the Deadbeat Parents Punishment Act of 1998 (DPPA)

C: the National Child Support Felonies Act of 1999 (NCSFA)

D: the Bilateral Original Offensive Key Enforcement Mandate (BOOK 'EM)



ANSWER #38

B

The United States Department of Justice, Child Support Enforcement, Federal Child Support Laws

Federal child support enforcement became possible with the passage of the Child Support Recovery Act (CSRA) in 1992. The CSRA aimed to deter non-payment of State ordered support obligations through prosecution of the most egregious offenders. While federal prosecution efforts were successful under the CSRA, some law enforcement agencies found that the simple misdemeanor penalties provided for under the Act did not have the force to deter the most serious violators. The problem with enforcement under the CSRA was remedied with the passage of the Deadbeat Parents Punishment Act (DPPA) in 1998. This Act created new categories of federal felonies for the most egregious child support violators.

<https://www.justice.gov/criminal-ceos/child-support-enforcement>

QUESTION #39

Under expedited processes, actions to establish child support orders must be completed by IV-D offices from the date of service of process to the time of disposition within what timeframes?

A: 75% within 6 months and 90% within 12 months

B: 66% within 6 months and 75% within 9 months

C: 50% within 3 months and 75% within 6 months

D: 100% within the next 2 days. Immediately after this session rush right back to your desks and start filing those petitions! I mean it, I want to see some hustle. Run ... run ... run. Come on, I know you can move quicker than that. You're like a bunch of turtles. Any slower and you'd be going backwards. I've seen icebergs move faster! ...



ANSWER #39

A

CFR §303.101(b)(2)(i) Expedited processes

(i) In IV-D cases needing support order establishment, regardless of whether paternity has been established, action to establish support orders must be completed from the date of service of process to the time of disposition within the following timeframes: (A) 75 percent in 6 months; and (B) 90 percent in 12 months.

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=4b04fc587d207eea3176b4ff9a8ca1d0&mc=true&node=se45.3.303_1101&rgn=div8

QUESTION #40

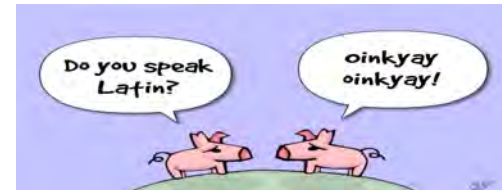
What does the U.S. Department of State – Bureau of Consular Affairs do to assist the child support program?

A: Examines state level international agreements to ensure they meet all legal and federal requirements.

B: Denies passport services to persons that are certified to owe \$2500 or more in arrears.

C: Reviews each new Hague Child Support Convention nation to determine whether a possible objection gets filed.

D: Teach everyone how to speak Pig Latin – I do speak it, but I'm not really fluent or anything, although I'm sure if I ever went there, I could get by.



ANSWER #40

B

U.S. Department of State – Bureau of Consular Affairs, International Child Support Enforcement

The issue of child support enforcement is a high priority to the United States. At the Department of State we:

1. Provide information through the Consular Affairs Internet home page;
2. Deny passport services, except for direct return to the United States, to persons the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Office of Child Support Enforcement (HHS/ACF/OCSE) certifies as \$2500 or more in arrears;
3. Encourage foreign countries to join the Hague Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance (Hague Child Support Convention); and
4. Facilitate communication among parents, U.S. states, foreign countries, and other U.S. Government agencies on this important subject.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/legal/travel-legal-considerations/intl-child-support.html>

QUESTION #41

What was the nationwide percentage of Undistributed Collections (UDC) in FY 2019?

A: 1.93%

B: 4.87%

C: 7.02%



D: Speaking of not paying money that is owed,
I have to say that I have the best debts in the world.
Every single one of them is outstanding!

ANSWER #41

A

OCSE FY 2019 Preliminary Report, Table P-17, Financial Overview for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 23

Percent of Undistributed Collections (UDC) for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years:

- 2015 – 2.07%
- 2016 – 1.97%
- 2017 – 1.94%
- 2018 – 1.95%
- 2019 – 1.93%

QUESTION #42

What is the #1 reason for undistributed collections (UDC) that are pending distribution?



- A: Collections from tax offsets being held for a joint return.
- B: Collections received and being held for future support.
- C: Collections received within the past two business days.
- D: The states hold money to pay for their office holiday parties in December.



ANSWER #42

B

OCSE FY 2019 Preliminary Report, Table P-18, UDC
Pending Distribution by Category, p. 24

2019 totals:

Collections Received and Being Held for Future Support = \$137,555,381

Collections from Tax Offsets Being Held for Up to Six Months = \$101,479,937

Collections Received Within the Past Two Business Days = \$46,672,779

Collections Being Held Pending the Resolution of Legal Disputes = \$42,298,182

Collections Being Held Pending Transfer to Other States or Federal Agency = \$38,323,310

Net UDC Collections Totals = \$543,911,778 (TOTAL)

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/fy_2019_preliminary_data_report.pdf

QUESTION #43

Parents of a child born in the last few years should expect to spend approximately how much money for food, shelter, and other necessities to raise a child through age 17?

A: \$100,000

B: \$250,000

C: \$500,000



D: Considering how much money I spend on my kids, you'd think they might be able to remember my birthday every so often. I don't want an expensive present or anything, but they can at least send me a card! Or maybe something cool like enrolling me in the jerky-of-the-month club. Anything other than a new tie; I have tons of those. And maybe ...

ANSWER #43

B

U.S. Department of Agriculture, “The Cost of Raising a Child”, published February 18, 2020

Based on the most recent data from the Consumer Expenditures Survey, in 2015, a family will spend approximately \$12,980 annually per child in a middle-income (\$59,200-\$107,400), two-child, married-couple family. Middle-income, married-couple parents of a child born in 2015 may expect to spend \$233,610 (\$284,570 if projected inflation costs are factored in*) for food, shelter, and other necessities to raise a child through age 17. This does not include the cost of a college education.

<https://www.usda.gov/media/blog/2017/01/13/cost-raising-child>

QUESTION #44

What is the minimum dollar threshold for a case to qualify for a federal tax refund offset?



A: Arrears assigned to the state = \$250 / owed to CP = \$250

B: Arrears assigned to the state = \$250 / owed to CP = \$500

C: Arrears assigned to the state = \$150 / owed to CP = \$500

D: Did you hear that atheists are trying to get tax exempt status? They are claiming to be a non-prophet organization.

Get it?

ANSWER #44

C

CFR §303.72 Requests for collection of past-due support by Federal tax refund offset

(2) For support that has been assigned to the State under section 408(a)(3) of the Act or section 471(a)(17) of the Act, the amount of the support is not less than \$150. The State may combine assigned support amounts from the same obligor in multiple cases to reach \$150. Amounts under this paragraph may not be combined with amounts under paragraph (a)(3) of this section to reach the minimum amounts required under this paragraph or under paragraph (a)(3) of this section.

(3)(ii) The amount of support is not less than \$500. The State may combine support amounts from the same obligor in multiple cases where the IV-D agency is providing IV-D services under §302.33 of this chapter to reach \$500. Amounts under this paragraph may not be combined with amounts under paragraph (a)(2) of this section to reach the minimum amounts required under this paragraph or under paragraph (a)(2) of this section.

QUESTION #45

What do all of these jurisdictions have in common:
California DCSS, Colorado DHS, Indiana DCSS, North Dakota DHS, Oklahoma DHS, Virginia DSS, Washington State DSHS, Fort Belknap Indian Community in Harlem MT, and The Klamath Tribes in Klamath Falls OR?

A: They all recently received Intergovernmental Case Processing Innovation Demonstration grants from OCSE.

B: They were each awarded NCSEA Program Awards at last year's Leadership Symposium.

C: They each recently received government funding to open more Employment Training Programs for NCPs.

D: They each received ERICSA's "Best Dressed" award at this year's conference.



ANSWER #45

A

\$1.39 million awarded to improve child support collections across jurisdictions, September 30, 2019

The Intergovernmental Case Processing Innovation Demonstration grant will test innovations that will increase payments on intergovernmental cases and improve case processing procedures for parents.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/media/press/2019/139-million-awarded-to-improve-child-support-collections-across-jurisdictions>

QUESTION #46

As detailed in the Op-Ed: “Why The Taboo Of Child Support And Black Families Still Sparks Heated Debates”, and supported by the U.S. Census, approximately what percentage of African-American children in the U.S. were living in single parent households in 2019?

A: 64%

B: 45%

C: 77%

D: 31%



ANSWER #46

A

BET, Op-Ed: “Why The Taboo Of Child Support And Black Families Still Sparks Heated Debates”;
Stigmas, stereotypes and a racist criminal justice system.

Final paragraph: “As long as we buy into damaging stereotypes, the “deadbeat dad” and the “money hungry baby mama,” the further away we get from having meaningful conversations with each other about how to meet in the middle. At the end of the day, it’s the children in our community who ultimately lose out on necessary resources and time with their parents.”

<https://www.bet.com/news/national/2019/11/04/op-ed--why-the-taboo-of-child-support-and--black-families-still-.html> AND

<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data/tables/107-children-in-single-parent-families-by-race#detailed/1/any/false/1729,37,871,870,573,869,36,868,867,133/10,11,9,12,1,185,13/432,431>

Race	2019
American Indian	52%
Asian and Pacific Islander	15%
Black or African American	64%
Hispanic or Latino	42%
Non-Hispanic White	24%
Two or more races	40%
Total	34%

QUESTION #47

Types of non-IV-D activities that may qualify for funding with incentive payments include which of the following?

A: Fatherhood programs and education and job programs for noncustodial parents

B: Programs targeting incarcerated or putative fathers

C: Mediation or couples counseling

D: AOTA (An attaboy/attagal for whoever remembers that acronym from a previous question!)



A **O** **T** **A**

ANSWER #47

D

Reinvesting Child Support Incentive Payments, AT-20-01,
published January 31, 2020

The types of non-IV-D activities that may qualify for funding with incentive payments include, but are not limited to:

- Fatherhood programs
- Education and job programs for noncustodial parents
- Programs targeting incarcerated or putative fathers
- Mediation or couples counseling

The requested activity must show a clear connection to and collaboration with the state CSE program.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/reinvesting-child-support-incentive-payments>

QUESTION #48

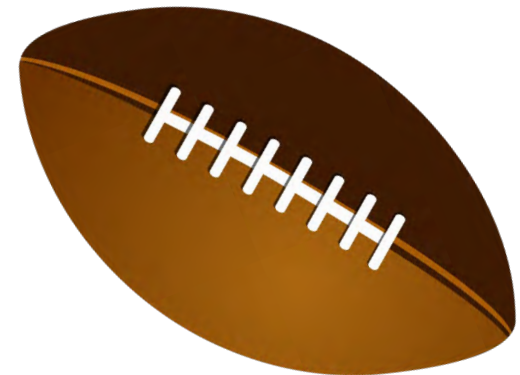
The IRS recently added a new field to the Form W-4, the Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate. What does this new field contain?

A: The employee's children's dates of birth

B: The availability of medical insurance to the employee

C: The employee's first date of employment

D: The employee's favorite pro football team



ANSWER #48

C

Collaboration Improves New Hire Reporting, A Look Inside OCSE - Story Series, published December 19, 2018

A change to Form W-4 helps employers submit all federally required data at once. The IRS recently added a new field to the 2018 Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate, that lets employers enter the employee's first date of employment. This new hire reporting requirement started in June 2011 when a Social Security Act amendment required that employers report the employment dates for new hires and rehires to the State Directory of New Hires. It aimed at reducing the number of overpayments to individuals receiving unemployment insurance benefits. With this change, employers can use the W-4 for new hire reporting because it contains fields for all federally required data elements.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/collaboration-improves-new-hire-reporting>

QUESTION #49



Which of the following was a finding of the Behavioral Interventions for Child Support Services (BICS) demonstration report?

A: NCPs were not more likely to make any support payments.

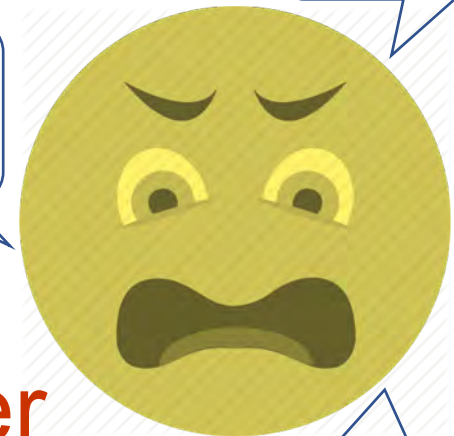
B: NCPs were more likely to make initial support payments, but not long term payments.

C: NCPs were more likely to make both initial and long term support payments.

D: Speaking of behavioral intervention, whenever I see suspicious behavior in rural Pennsylvania I think "Hmm, something seems Amish."

You stink!

BOO!!!



Wow, that's bad even for you!!!

ANSWER #49

B

Tools for Better Practices and Better Outcomes: The BICS Project, Final Report, published January 22, 2020

Findings from the demonstration include:

- Outreach and communication informed by behavioral science can make parents more likely to respond to outreach, attend in-person meetings, submit required forms, and make initial payments on new orders.
- Interventions directed at a specific activity, such as encouraging parents to attend a meeting at the child support office, can affect outcomes related to that activity, but will not necessarily affect other outcomes at later points in the child support process, such as longer-term payment rates.
- The interventions' effects are typically modest in size, but they are also inexpensive to implement.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/tools-for-better-practices-and-better-outcomes-the-bics-project>

QUESTION #50

The OCSE fiscal year fee for federal tax refund offsets went from \$19.30 per offset in 2019 to \$19.64 per offset in 2020 to what in 2021?

A: \$19.30

B: \$20.37

C: \$21.10

D: \$20.21 (Just a coincidence, we promise!)



2021

ANSWER #50

B

FY 2021 Federal Offset and Pre-Offset Notice Program Fees, DCL-20-09, published September 23, 2020

The fiscal year (FY) 2021 fee for federal tax refund offsets will be \$20.37 per offset. The fee for federal administrative intercepts will be \$14.83 per offset. Each year, Treasury's Bureau of the Fiscal Service (BFS) reviews its operational costs and fee structure. This year's review resulted in an increase in tax refund offset and administrative offset fees. Since we don't know the impact COVID-19 will have on the ability of BFS to collect delinquent debts, BFS may need to adjust its fees during FY 2021. BFS will notify us of any changes to offset fees in advance. The OCSE Pre-Offset Notice fee will remain at \$0.52 per notice. The 2021 fiscal year begins on October 1, 2020, and ends September 30, 2021.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/fy-2021-federal-offset-and-pre-offset-notice-program-fees>

QUESTION #51

In FY 2018, what percentage of child support arrears were TANF arrears?

A: 7%

B: 14%

C: 21%



D: Speaking of owing money, “debt” means you had more fun that you were supposed to.



ANSWER #51

C

TANF Arrears Continue to Decline, October 18, 2019

Unpaid child support accumulates as arrears. In FY 2018, total arrears certified for the federal government's Federal Tax Refund Offset Program was \$114.7 billion. Most arrears are owed to custodial families, but some are owed to the government. This is because when families apply for cash assistance from the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, they are required to assign their child support to the government up to the amount of cash assistance provided to the family. If child support goes unpaid while the family receives TANF cash assistance, the arrears that accumulate are owed to the government and referred to as TANF arrears. In FY 2018, 21% or \$24.3 billion of the total certified arrears were TANF arrears.

In 2019, the percentage was down to 20%.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/ocsedatablog/2019/10/tanf-arrears-continue-to-decline>

QUESTION #52

How many days does a Support Disbursement Unit (SDU) have to forward all non-TANF, non-tax offset payments?

A: 2 business days

B: 3 business days

C: 5 business days

D: I know some ERICSA board members who are often in a "daze". (Okay, it's usually me.)



ANSWER #52

A

CFR §302.32, Collection and disbursement of support payments by the IV-D agency

Collection and disbursement of support payments by the IV-D Agency. (1) In interstate IV-D cases, amounts collected by the responding State on behalf of the initiating State must be forwarded to the initiating State within 2 business days of the date of receipt by the SDU in the responding State, in accordance with §303.7(c)(7)(iv). (3)(i) Except as provided under paragraph (b)(3)(ii) of this section, amounts collected on behalf of individuals receiving services under §302.33 of this part shall be disbursed by the SDU pursuant to section 457 of the Act, within 2 business days of receipt by the SDU.

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=054cc24ea4868e0a13c5dd0fe8ccc352&mc=true&node=se45.3.302_132&rgn=div8

QUESTION #53

In terms of child support, what does the acronym
“SMARTER” stand for?

S M A R T E R

A: An employee training goal: Specific, Measurable,
Attainable, Relevant, Time-bound, Evaluate, Rework

B: Child support actions: Support, Modification, Arrears,
Registration, Tax offset, Enforcement, Redirection

C: Tribunal terminology: Sanction, Magistrate, Affidavit,
Record, Testimony, Evidence, Remarks

D: Game show host adjectives: Swell (not this host!), Motivated (depends
on the day of the week), Articulate (he doesn't even pronounce his R's),
Ritzy (um, depends on your definition), Terrific (you're really going there?!?),
Excellent (I'd rate him a 10 – out of 100), Regal (*NOT!*).

ANSWER #53

A

December 2019 Child Support Report, SMARTER Goals for Supervisors, Child Support Training and Outreach Project, Professional Development Program

S = Specific: what exactly do you want to accomplish?

M = Measurable: how will you know when the goal is met?

A = Attainable: is this a goal you can reach?

R = Relevant: does the goal tie in to your job tasks?

T = Time-bound: what is the target date?

E = Evaluate: how successful are you?

R = Rework: adjust the goal as necessary

QUESTION #54

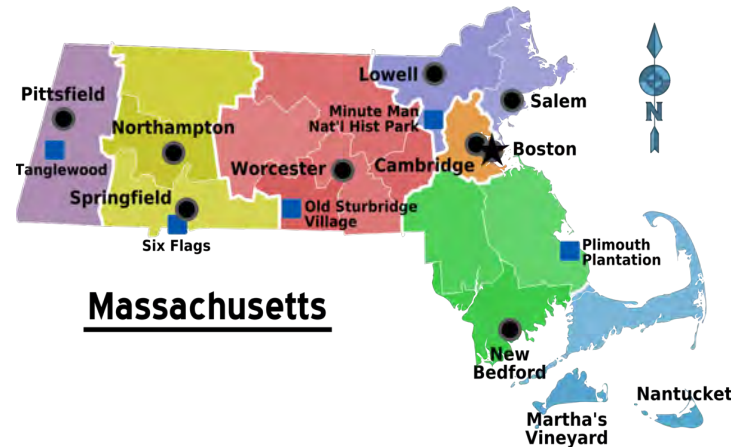
A study conducted by *Custody X Change* said that which state sets the highest child support amounts in their court orders?

A: New Jersey

B: Massachusetts

C: Nevada

D: No Name, CO (I know that's just a city and not a state, but I think the name is really cool!)



ANSWER #54

B

Child Support Payments Vary Wildly From State to State,
June 18, 2019, MONEYWATCH

The varying yardsticks create some surprising results. For example, New Jersey ranks 47th in child support payment court ordered amounts, even though it's one of the most expensive states in which to live. Massachusetts is first, and Nevada second. According to the study, the Northeast region ranks higher, while Rocky Mountain states rate the lowest.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/child-support-payments-vary-wildly-from-state-to-state/>

QUESTION #55



All 50 states' child support agencies do driver's license suspension under certain circumstances. Most states also do other types of license suspension as well. Which of these types of licenses are suspended by more states than the others?

A: Occupational licenses

B: Professional licenses

C: Recreational licenses

D: Game show host licenses – uh-oh!!!



ANSWER #55

A

NCSL, License Restrictions for Failure to Pay Child Support, 9/4/2019

49 states suspend Occupational licenses (not KS), 48 states suspend Professional licenses (not AK or MI), and 45 states suspend Recreational licenses (not GA, IL, KS, MD, MN), 33 states suspend Business licenses, 2 states suspend Sporting licenses, 2 states suspend Commercial licenses, 2 states suspend Vehicle Registration licenses, 1 state suspends Notary Public licenses, and 1 state suspends Concealed Carry licenses.

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/license-restrictions-for-failure-to-pay-child-support.aspx>

QUESTION #56

Which one of these is a question on the Intergovernmental Reference Guide (IRG) state profile section?



- A: Does your state recoup confinement/birthing expenses from either the CP or the NCP?
- B: Does your state calculate another jurisdiction's interest rate on arrears?
- C: Will your state establish support orders for prior periods?
- D: Who's buried in Grant's Tomb?

ANSWER #56

C

OCSE Intergovernmental Reference Guide (IRG), Profile

View state, tribal, and international policy guidance and contact information. State profile questions include:

- Section A: General/Program-At-A-Glance
- Section B: Uniform Interstate Family Support act (UIFSA)
- Section C: Reciprocity
- Section D: Age of Majority
- Section E: Statute of Limitations
- Section F: Support Details
- Section G: Income Withholding
- Section H: Paternity
- Section I: Support Order Establishment
- Section J: Support Enforcement
- Section K: Modification and Review/Adjustment
- Section L: Payments
- Section M: Insurance Match
- Section N: Case Closure
- Section O: Family Violence

<https://ocsp.acf.hhs.gov/irg/profile.html>

QUESTION #57

Which state resolved the most paternities in 2019?

A: California

B: Florida

C: Texas

D: My kids asked me if they were adopted.
I said “Not yet, but I placed an ad.”



ANSWER #57

C

OCSE FY 2019 Preliminary Report, Table P-92, Children with Paternity Resolved for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 98

In 2019 the top 6 states were: Texas = 1,280,285, California = 1,091,698, Ohio = 714,419, New York = 698,378, Michigan = 623,845, Florida = 594,036; all others were less than half a million.

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/fy_2019_preliminary_data_report.pdf

QUESTION #58

Per federal case closure criteria, how many years must a state keep a case in locate status before the case can be closed due to unsuccessful location efforts, if there is sufficient information to initiate an automated locate effort?

A: 1 year

B: 2 years

C: 3 years

D: Since no one can ever locate that Waldo guy, you can probably just close his case.



ANSWER #58

B

CFR §303.11(b)(7) – Case Closure Criteria

(7) The noncustodial parent's location is unknown, and the State has made diligent efforts using multiple sources, in accordance with §303.3, all of which have been unsuccessful, to locate the noncustodial parent:

- (i) Over a 2-year period when there is sufficient information to initiate an automated locate effort; or
- (ii) Over a 6-month period when there is not sufficient information to initiate an automated locate effort; or
- (iii) After a 1-year period when there is sufficient information to initiate an automated locate effort, but locate interfaces are unable to verify a Social Security Number.

http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=d246a2c6d4557850420104d361a8f473&mc=true&node=se45.2.303_111&rgn=div8

QUESTION #59

Tribal child support programs are uniquely positioned to provide fatherhood activities because caseworkers have direct contact with fathers. Which of these is NOT an allowable fatherhood activity that is eligible for FFP?

A: Assisting with reasonable attorney's fees during enforcement/contempt proceedings.

B: Conducting parenting and co-parenting classes.

C: Paying for bus fare or other minor transportation costs for fathers to participate in child support proceedings.

D: Help with paying the registration fee for the annual ERICSA conference (a bargain at twice the price!).



NOT A
VALID
ANSWER!

ANSWER #59

A

Allowable Costs for Tribal Child Support Programs, PIQT-19-01, published May 13, 2019

Tribal child support programs have requested guidance on whether they may receive federal financial participation on the below activities. The costs of these activities must be reasonable in accordance with 45 CFR 309.145 and 45 CFR 75.404. A tribe must include them in their annual tribal budget or request to add them to their approved budget by submitting a budget revision pursuant to 45 CFR 309.130(b) and (f). A tribe must also maintain adequate documentation of all claimed costs in accordance with 45 CFR 309.85(b) and 309.145(o)(1). Additionally, when considering the below activities, OCSE encourages tribes to determine how they would improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their tribal child support program and to maintain data on the results.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/allowable-costs-for-tribal-child-support-programs>

QUESTION #60

The child support program currently serves 14.7 million children nationwide (2019). Which one of these programs serves more children?



A: Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

B: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

C: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

D: Services for the Maltreatment and Abuse of Children and Kids (SMACK)



ANSWER #60

B

2019 Infographic: More Money for Families, Collections, Caseload, and Cost-Effectiveness of the Child Support Program, published November 10, 2020

Child support in comparison to other programs. Children served (millions):

Medicaid 36.3

SNAP/FS 17.1

Child Support 14.3

WIC 3.2

Social Security 2.9

TANF 1.6

Child Care Development Fund 1.3

Supplemental Security Income 1.1

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/infographic/2019-infographic-more-money-families> AND
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/2019_infographic_national.pdf

QUESTION #61

Which one of these judicial expenses is eligible for federal financial participation (FFP) at the applicable matching rate?

A. Short term training of court staff assigned to support enforcement functions.



B: Costs of compensation (salary and fringe benefits) of child support judges.



C: Office-related costs, such as space, equipment, furnishings & supplies, incurred by child support judges.

D: Costs of setting up the annual court NCAA hoops pool.

ANSWER #61

A

CFR §304.21, Federal financial participation in the costs of cooperative arrangements with courts and law enforcement officials

(a) *General.* Subject to the conditions and limitations specified in this part, Federal financial participation (FFP) at the applicable matching rate is available in the costs of cooperative agreements with appropriate courts and law enforcement officials in accordance with the requirements of §302.34 of this chapter. *Law enforcement officials* mean district attorneys, attorneys general, similar public attorneys and prosecutors and their staff, and corrections officials. When performed under agreement, which is reflected in a record, costs of the following activities are subject to reimbursement: (1) The activities, including administration of such activities, specified in §304.20(b)(2) through (8), (11), and (12); (2) Reasonable and essential short term training of court and law enforcement staff assigned on a full or part time basis to support enforcement functions under the cooperative agreement.

(b) *Limitations.* Federal financial participation is not available in: (1) Service of process and court filing fees unless the court or law enforcement agency would normally be required to pay the cost of such fees; (2) Costs of compensation (salary and fringe benefits) of judges; (3) Costs of travel and training related to the judicial determination process incurred by judges; (4) Office-related costs, such as space, equipment, furnishings and supplies, incurred by judges; (5) Compensation (salary and fringe benefits), travel and training, and office-related costs incurred by administrative and support staffs of judges; (6) Costs of cooperative arrangements that do not meet the requirements of §303.107 of this chapter.

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=f4bc1b07cb2d1b98709cf996a7cb493b&mc=true&node=pt45.3.304&rgn=div5#se45.3.304_121

QUESTION #62

What is this a definition of: "A single unit or office within the State IV-D agency which receives, disseminates and has oversight responsibility for processing incoming interstate IV-D cases, including UIFSA petitions and requests for wage withholding in IV-D cases?"

A: Central Authority

B: Interstate Tribunal

C: Central Registry

D: A super duper fun place to work! (Although you will have to really lower your definition of "super." And "duper.")



ANSWER #62

C

CFR §301.1, General definitions

Central registry means a single unit or office within the State IV-D agency which receives, disseminates and has oversight responsibility for processing incoming interstate IV-D cases, including UIFSA petitions and requests for wage withholding in IV-D cases and, at the option of the State, intrastate IV-D cases.

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=f4bc1b07cb2d1b98709cf996a7cb493b&mc=true&tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title45/45cfr301_main_02.tpl

QUESTION #63

How long can a state hold a federal tax refund offset before applying the monies to a case if it is from a joint return?

A: 60 days

B: 120 days

C: 6 months

D: It's absolutely disgusting the way some people cheat on their taxes. This is not the world I want to raise my 23 dependents in.



We saw you
cheating on
your taxes!



ANSWER #63

C

42 U.S.C. §664(a)(3)(B);
CFR §303.72(h)(5) – Requests for Collection of Past-Due
Support by Federal Tax Refund Offset

45 CFR 302.32 (b)(2)(iv) requires states to distribute single return tax refund offset collections within 30 calendar days of receipt. If the tax refund offset is from a joint return, 42 U.S.C. 664(a)(3)(B) and HHS regulations at 45 CFR 303.72 (h)(5) allow a state to hold the joint offset payment for up to 6 months or until notified that the unobligated spouse's proper share has been paid.

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/42/664> and

http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=1d17c8f55d3911f78660d6ab790b5e85&mc=true&node=se45.2.303_172&rgn=div8

QUESTION #64

If a putative father contests paternity where the tests were ordered by a IV-D agency, which one of the following actions can the IV-D agency do?



- A: Charge the CP a reasonable fee for performing genetic tests.
- B: Charge the NCP a reasonable fee for performing genetic tests.
- C: Charge a Public Assistance agency a reasonable fee for performing genetic tests.
- D: Before acknowledging paternity the most important thing a putative father should ask is: "Am I ready to watch the exact same cartoon on repeat for the next 4 years?"



ANSWER #64

B

CFR §303.5(e)(3) – Establishment of Paternity

- (e)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (e)(3) of this section, the IV-D agency may charge any individual who is not a recipient of aid under the State's title IV-A or XIX plan a reasonable fee for performing genetic tests.
- (2) Any fee charged must be reasonable so as not to discourage those in need of paternity establishment services from seeking them and may not exceed the actual costs of the genetic tests.
- (3) If paternity is established and genetic tests were ordered by the IV-D agency, the IV-D agency must pay the costs of such tests, subject to recoupment (if the agency elects) from the alleged father who denied paternity. If a party contests the results of an original test, the IV-D agency shall obtain additional tests but shall require the contestant to pay for the costs of any such additional testing in advance.
- (4) The IV-D agency must use any amount collected under paragraphs (e) (1) and (3) of this section that exceeds the costs of performing genetic tests to reimburse any fee paid under paragraph (e)(1) of this chapter.

<http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text->

[idx?SID=1e3e6b539b93c51e7a86adb104182955&mc=true&node=se45.2.303_15&rgn=div8](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=1e3e6b539b93c51e7a86adb104182955&mc=true&node=se45.2.303_15&rgn=div8)

QUESTION #65

How many states allow for temporary driver's licenses if suspension would prevent the obligor from traveling to and from work, parenting time, or religious services?

A: 15

B: 25

C: 35

D: My daughter had her driver's test the other day. She got 8 out of 10. The other 2 guys jumped clear.



ANSWER #65

A

NCSL, Child Support, License Restrictions for Failure to Pay Child Support, 9/4/2019

In recent years, some legislatures have begun easing up on license restrictions that would impair the obligor's ability to earn income or otherwise meet their parental obligations. For example, 15 states allow for temporary driver's licenses if suspension would prevent the obligor from traveling to and from work, parenting time or religious services. Some states allow for temporary occupational or professional licenses while the administrative or judicial review is being conducted.

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/license-restrictions-for-failure-to-pay-child-support.aspx>

QUESTION #66

Beginning in November 2019, Federal OCSE began masking the NCP's full SSN on its Pre-Offset Notice (PON) in what way?



A: The SSN field has been left off entirely.

B: Asterisks replaced the first five digits of the SSN while the last four digits are displayed (***-**-6789).

C: Asterisks replaced the entire SSN (***-**-****).

D: They just put 999-99-9999 as everyone's SSN. (Those feds just love to mess with us!)



ANSWER #66

C

The SSN on OCSE-Issued Pre-Offset Notice, IM-19-07,
published October 29, 2019

To comply with the Social Security Number Fraud Prevention Act of 2017, which restricts the inclusion of Social Security numbers (SSNs) on documents federal agencies send by mail, the Office of Child Support Enforcement will mask the noncustodial parent's full SSN on its Pre-Offset Notice (PON) beginning in November 2019. Prior to this change, asterisks replaced the first five digits of the SSN while the last four digits were displayed. With this change, the SSN will now be displayed on the PON with all asterisks. For example, an SSN previously displayed as ***-**-6789 will now be displayed as ***-**-****.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/the-ssn-on-ocse-issued-pre-offset-notice>

QUESTION #67

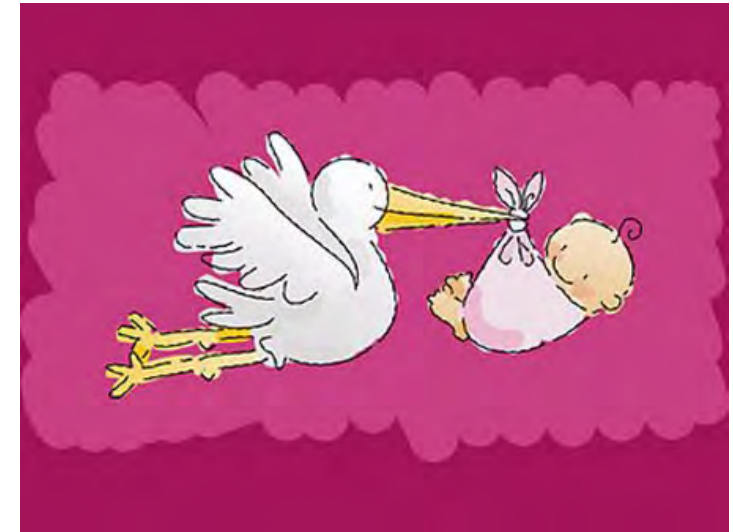
The IV-D agency shall attempt to establish paternity in any case involving which of the following circumstances?

A: If there was incest or forcible rape.

B: In any case in which legal proceedings for adoption are pending.

C: The NCP rescinds a signed Voluntary Acknowledgment of Paternity form within 60 days after signing it.

D: Any case where Woody Allen is named as the father.



ANSWER #67

C

CFR §303.5(b) – Establishment of Paternity;
SSA §466(a)(5)(D)(ii)

CFR 303.5(b) The IV-D agency need not attempt to establish paternity in any case involving incest or forcible rape, or in any case in which legal proceedings for adoption are pending, if, in the opinion of the IV-D agency, it would not be in the best interests of the child to establish paternity.

SSA §466(a)(5)(D)(ii) LEGAL FINDING OF PATERNITY.—Procedures under which a signed voluntary acknowledgment of paternity is considered a legal finding of paternity, subject to the right of any signatory to rescind the acknowledgment within the earlier of — (I) 60 days;

http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=1e3e6b539b93c51e7a86adb104182955&mc=true&node=se45.2.303_15&rgn=div8
and https://www.ssa.gov/OP_Home/ssact/title04/0466.htm

QUESTION #68

In 2019 OCSE completed their collaboration with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges to create which of these documents?



A: “Legal Authority for Conducting the Information Comparison with State Workers' Compensation Agencies”

B: “Interstate Child Support Enforcement Case Processing and UIFSA”



C: “Child Support - When You Are Afraid of the Other Parent”

D: “How to Win Friends and Influence People”
(I think the host should probably read this report!)



ANSWER #68

C

Child Support When You're Afraid of the Other Parent, Guide for Domestic Violence Advocates and Survivors, published October 21, 2019

This guide helps survivors of domestic violence make fully informed decisions about safety and child support services. Child support processes and safety modifications vary by state. The guide provides a sequence of questions that survivors or domestic violence advocates can ask to learn about safety measures available in their state. It also explains why it's important for child support workers to discuss local safety measures with all recipients of child support services. This guide was developed in collaboration with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/child-support-when-youre-afraid-of-the-other-parent>

QUESTION #69

Under normal circumstances, can the age of emancipation set by the original order issuing state be modified by a tribunal of another state?

A: No, this is not permissible.

B: Yes, this is permissible depending on the specific age of emancipation.

C: It is at the discretion of the original order issuing state.

D: Speaking of age, I like birthdays, but I think that too many can kill you.



ANSWER #69

A

UIFSA §611(c) and §604(a)

611(c): “A tribunal of this state may not modify any aspect of a child support order that may not be modified under the law of the issuing state.”

604(a): “The law of the issuing state governs the nature, extent, amount, and duration of current payments and other obligations of support and the payment of arrearages under the order.” (underline added)

http://www.uniformlaws.org/shared/docs/interstate%20family%20support/UIFSA_2008_Final_Amended%202015_Revised%20Prefatory%20Note%20and%20Comments.pdf

QUESTION #70

Which of the following is NOT one of the three principles of Procedural Justice-informed Alternatives to Contempt (PJAC) strategies?

A: Responses to domestic violence

B: Demographic based procedures

C: Trauma-informed practices

D: This is another one of those questions where the host got really lazy and the correct answer is actually “None Of The Above” (they are all legit principles).



ANSWER #70

B

Incorporating Procedural Justice-Informed Strategies into Child Support Services, Training Approaches Applied in the PJAC Demonstration Project, published Sept 18, 2019

This 4-page project brief is the first in a series designed to share lessons learned as the Procedural Justice-Informed Alternatives to Contempt (PJAC) model is implemented. It describes the specialized training provided to child support staff at the six participating sites who are adapting procedural justice-informed approaches to their work with parents. For example, all PJAC caseworkers receive training in the principles of procedural justice and how to apply the concepts; dispute resolution; responses to domestic violence; and trauma-informed practices.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/incorporating-procedural-justice-informed-services-into-child-support>

QUESTION #71

What is the ISO Claim Search?

A: Insurance Services Office – the process in which a company's insurance claims are matched to information provided by OCSE in the Insurance Match Program.

B: Intergovernmental Support Outline – a checklist for what UIFSA forms are needed by each state for each type of action.

C: International Standards Organization – contains a list of requirements checked by OCSE before a federal level bi-lateral agreement is created.

D: IQ Score Overload – something we don't have to worry about from the session host!



ANSWER #71

A

OCSE Insurance Match Program Fact Sheet - November 2019, published November 1, 2019

What is the Insurance Match Program? The program is a partnership between OCSE, child support agencies, insurance companies, state workers' compensation agencies, and the U.S. Department of Labor. The program compares information about parents who owe past-due support with information maintained by insurers (or their agents) about insurance claims, settlements, awards, and payments. OCSE sends information resulting from data matches to the state agencies responsible for collecting child support.

Who Participates in the Program? • All states and territories • Over 1,500 insurance companies • 26 state workers' compensation agencies • U.S. Department of Labor

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/ocse-insurance-match-program-fact-sheet> AND
https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/programs/css/ocse_insurance_match_program_fact_sheet.pdf

QUESTION #72

Which of the following was NOT a recent change to Part A of the National Medical Support Notice (NMSN)?

A: There is now a new form, Part A.1, that states that medical insurance is being terminated.

B: A checkbox was added to distinguish between the NMS Order/Notice and a Termination Order/Notice.

C: The Employer Responsibilities section indicates that medical insurance may continue if the parent voluntarily agrees.

D: Medical insurance related joke: "What do hospital gowns and insurance policies have in common? You're never covered as much as you think you are."

N
M
S
N



ANSWER #72

A

Revised Part A National Medical Support Notice (NMSN) and Instructions, AT-19-05, published October 30, 2019

Significant Changes to the NMSN Part A Form and Instructions:

- A checkbox was added to distinguish between the National Medical Support Order/Notice and a Termination Order/Notice.
- The Employer Responsibilities section indicates that employers are required to terminate medical insurance when they receive an NMSN with the Termination Order/Notice checkbox checked on page one unless the parent wishes to continue the insurance voluntarily.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/revised-part-a-national-medical-support-notice-and-instructions>

QUESTION #73

In early 2020 the United Kingdom withdrew from the European Union. Where does the U.K. currently stand as far as child support is concerned?

A: The U.K. is no longer considered a reciprocating country, so the U.S. no longer works international cases with them.

B: The U.K. is no longer a Hague child support country, but they are still a reciprocating country under an old bilateral agreement with the U.S.

C: The U.K. is once again a Hague child support country as they have since independently ratified the Hague agreement.

D: Speaking of foreign countries, did you read the lengthy article about Japanese sword fighters? If not I can Samurais it for you.



ANSWER #73

C

United Kingdom's Ratification of the Hague Child Support Convention, IM-21-01, published January 29, 2021

This Memorandum updates procedures for processing child support cases with the United Kingdom following the U.K.'s withdrawal from the European Union, and the U.K.'s independent ratification of the Hague Child Support Convention, effective January 1, 2021. The United Kingdom withdrew from its membership of the European Union on January 31, 2020, and entered into a Withdrawal Agreement in respect of its continuing obligations toward the EU until December 31, 2020. During the period of the Withdrawal Agreement, and until the U.K. independently ratified the Hague Convention, the Convention was not in effect between the U.S. and the U.K. (England and Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland). IM-20-02 provided temporary instructions to states for child support cases with the U.K. during the period of the Withdrawal Agreement. In September 2020, the United Kingdom independently ratified the Hague Child Support Convention. The Convention took effect between the U.S. and the U.K. on January 1, 2021.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/united-kingdoms-ratification-hague-child-support-convention>

QUESTION #74

States may be granted an exemption from implementing one or more of the mandatory required laws and procedures enacted by Congress in §466 of the Social Security Act, which are responsible for the success of the state child support programs, for what reason?

A: If enacting said law(s) will be financially detrimental to the state program.

B: If the state can demonstrate that the laws and procedures will not increase the effectiveness of the state's CSE program.

C: If the state has recently enacted a similar procedure that it believes will be superior to the law listed in the statute.

D: If the state governor plays golf with the Secretary, but only if (s)he intentionally loses by at least 3 strokes.



ANSWER #74

B

Exemption Requests from Mandatory Laws and Procedures, AT-19-07, published December 11, 2019

If a state can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Secretary that any one, or all, of the required laws and procedures will not increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the state's child support enforcement program, the Secretary may grant the state an exemption from implementing one or more of the required procedures. Additionally, an exemption is available if a state has and uses a similar procedure that does not fully comply with the mandate, law, or procedure and the state shows evidence that implementation of the mandatory procedure would not increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the state's existing procedure. With respect to procedures for expedited processes, a state may apply for an exemption for one or more political subdivisions of the state.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/exemption-requests-from-mandatory-laws-and-procedures>

AND

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/programs/css/mandatory_laws_and_procedures_exemption_instructions.pdf

QUESTION #75

Besides a birth mother petitioner, who may also sign a Declaration in Support of Establishing Parentage form?



A: A non-birth mother petitioner (any petitioner)

B: A child support agency or tribunal representative

C: A foster care agency representative

D: I threw a dart and it landed on all of these answers simultaneously, which means “all of the above.”

ANSWER #75

D

OMB-Approved Standard Intergovernmental Child Support Enforcement Forms – December 2019, AT-19-08, published December 26, 2019

The revised standard intergovernmental forms have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB Number 0970-0085) and are ready for use by state child support agencies, as required by section 311(b) of the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) and 45 CFR 303.7(a)(4). The revised set of 13 forms and instructions incorporates mostly minor changes for clarity and consistency, especially related to safeguarding data. In addition, on the Child Support Enforcement Transmittal #3 – Request for Assistance/Discovery, we added a new action to facilitate payment processing for direct income withholding and clarified the payment forwarding action. On the Declaration in Support of Establishing Parentage form, the signature section now allows a representative of the state child support or foster care agency to sign.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/omb-approved-standard-intergovernmental-child-support-enforcement-forms-december-2019>

QUESTION #76

The child support incentive system measures state performance levels in five program areas, including ...



A: Medical Support Establishment Performance Level

B: Cost-Effectiveness Performance Level

C: Modification of Order Performance Level

D: Thinking About Incentives Makes me Dizzy
so I Need an Industrial Tool Level



ANSWER #76

B

CFR §305.2, Performance measures

The 5 performance measures are:

- Paternity Establishment Performance Level
- Support Order Establishment Performance Level
- Current Collections Performance Level
- Arrearage Collection Performance Level
- Cost-Effectiveness Performance Level

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-id?SID=987b6554e5cfe3d3715814b7844db4a6&mc=true&node=se45.3.305_12&rgn=div8

QUESTION #77

What was the national Cost Effectiveness ratio for 2019?

A: \$3.85

B: \$5.06

C: \$8.21

D: If you want your office to be more cost effective, hire people with more hands.



ANSWER #77

B

OCSE FY 2019 Preliminary Report, Table P-36, Financial Overview for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 42

Nationwide Cost Effectiveness ratio:

- 2015 – \$5.26
- 2016 – \$5.33
- 2017 – \$5.15
- 2018 – \$5.14
- 2019 – \$5.06

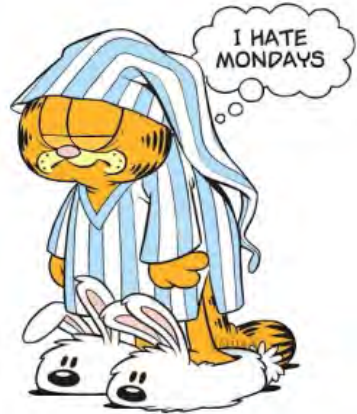
QUESTION #78

While Title IV-D of the Social Security Act does not allow expenditure of federal funds for the establishment or negotiation of parenting time arrangements, approximately how many states actually have an adjustment in their child support guidelines for parenting time?

A: 36

B: 26

C: 46



D: 90% of parenting time is saying "It's bedtime!" about 100 times between 8:00 and 9:00 every night.

ANSWER #78

A

National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), Child Support and Parenting Time Orders, 9/5/2019

Child Support Guideline Adjustments for Parenting Time. Approximately 36 states and D.C. have an adjustment in the child support guidelines for parenting time. This means that if the parents have established a parenting time order, the amount of time that each parent spends with the child will impact the amount of child support he or she pays or receives. Many jurisdictions will allow parents to informally agree on the amount of time the child spends with each parent to facilitate determination of child support obligations, but these informal agreements are not legally enforceable orders.

<http://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/child-support-and-parenting-time-orders.aspx>

QUESTION #79

FPLS is NOT to be used for which of the following non-child support case types (it can be used for the others)?

A: Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases

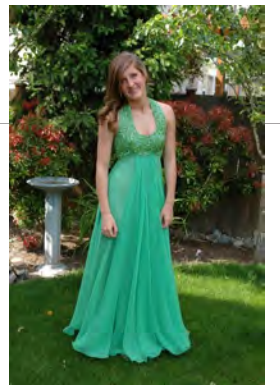
B: Parental kidnapping cases

C: Child custody or visitation cases

D: To help find the girl you took to the senior prom.



NOT A
VALID
ANSWER!



ANSWER #79

A

CFR §303.15, Agreements to use the Federal Parent Locator Service (PLS) in parental kidnapping and child custody or visitation cases, **and** CFR §303.69, Requests by agents or attorneys of the United States for information from the Federal Parent Locator Service (PLS)

§303.15 Agreements to use the Federal Parent Locator Service (PLS) in parental kidnapping and child custody or visitation cases.

§303.69 Requests by agents or attorneys of the United States for information from the Federal Parent Locator Service (PLS). (a) Agents or attorneys of the United States may request information directly from the Federal PLS in connection with a parental kidnapping or child custody case. (See §303.15(a) of this part for a definition of persons authorized to request the information.)

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=5a6f8d86f92f193e4edfb029b85f43ff&mc=true&node=se45.3.303_115&rgn=div8 and
https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=5a6f8d86f92f193e4edfb029b85f43ff&mc=true&node=se45.3.303_169&rgn=div8

QUESTION #80

Section 1115 of the Social Security Act provides the Department of Health and Human Services with the waiver authority to fund demonstration projects for the child support program. Which of these is an example of activities that may be approved for waiver funding?

A: access and visitation programs

B: Project Save Our Children (PSOC)

C: fatherhood or responsible parenting programs

D: A program to establish jobs to assist one-armed typists to type capital letters; it's shift work!



ANSWER #80

C

Section 1115 Waivers, IM-20-03, published April 2, 2020

Some examples of activities that may be approved for waiver funding include employment programs for noncustodial parents, fatherhood or responsible parenting programs, and establishment of parenting time orders in conjunction with financial support orders.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/section-1115-waivers>

QUESTION #81

What was November 20, 2020?



A: National Family Day

B: National Children's Day

C: National Reconciliation Day

D: a Thursday



ANSWER #81

B

National Children's Day: November 20, 2020

Investing in our future means investing in our children — which is why the United Nations has designated every November 20 as Universal Children's Day. It's a time to promote togetherness around the world, awareness of the problems children face in every corner of the globe, and improve the welfare for all children.

<https://nationaltoday.com/universal-childrens-day/>

QUESTION #82

What is the only exception to the "separation of cash handling and accounting functions" rule for IV-D agencies?

A: When a government entity is handling the accounting function.

B: When a non-government entity is handling the accounting function.

C: When the jurisdiction in question is a sparsely populated geographical area.

D: Money talks ... but all mine ever says is good-bye.



ANSWER #82

C

CFR §302.20, Separation of cash handling and accounting functions

The State plan shall provide that the following requirements and criteria to separate the cash handling and accounting functions are in effect. (c) Exception. The Regional Office may grant a waiver to sparsely populated geographical areas, where the requirements in paragraph (a) of this section would necessitate the hiring of unreasonable numbers of additional staff. The IV-D agency must document such administrative infeasibility and provide an alternative system of controls that reasonably insures that support collections will not be misused.

https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-id?SID=e5d5760bad84c7874589b3d94a709162&mc=true&node=se45.3.302_120&rgn=div8

QUESTION #83

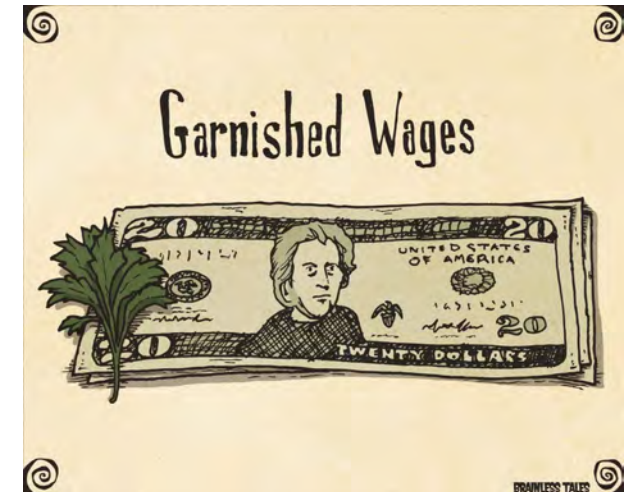
In FY 2019, what percentage of total child support collections was due to income withholding?

A: 71.8%

B: 74.9%

C: 78.3%

D: If a parsley farmer is sued,
can we garnish his wages?



ANSWER #83

A

OCSE FY 2019 Preliminary Report, Table P-29, Total Collections Received by Method of Collection, FY 2019, p. 35

2019 income withholdings = \$24,485,227,579

2019 total collections received = \$34,125,159,044

(Income withholding includes collections received from IV-D and non-IV-D child support cases processed through the State Disbursement Unit. Total collections received as reported on this table exceed the distributed amounts reported elsewhere.)

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/fy_2019_preliminary_data_report.pdf

QUESTION #84

A recent report showed that by changing the word “apply” to this in their child support application, the support team saw significant impacts to web traffic clicking through to their online application:

A: “utilize”

B: “operate”

C: “enroll”



D: Speaking of applications, I recently applied for a job in Australia but it seems I don't have the right koalifications.

ANSWER #84

C

OCSE January 2020 *Child Support Report*, “New Phrase Spurs More Parents to Apply for Support”, published January 23, 2020

Indiana has been experimenting with how words affect behavior. Could the office drive more participation in its child support program by changing terminology? The team started with a single word, “apply.” By changing the word apply to “enroll,” they saw significant impacts to web traffic clicking through to the online application. This confirmed the team’s belief that words have a direct correlation to the way people perceive Indiana’s services, and it impacts their behavior.

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/programs/css/january_2020_child_support_report.pdf

QUESTION #85

Which of the following is NOT a valid case closure criterion by a RJ in an intergovernmental case?

A: The IV-D agency documents failure by the initiating agency to take an action which is essential for the next step in providing services.

B: There are no parties to the action remaining in either the RJ or the controlling order state.

C: The initiating agency has notified the responding state that the initiating state has closed its case.

D: A new case would be your 1000th, and you can only manage a triple digit caseload.

NOT A
VALID
ANSWER!



ANSWER #85

B

CFR §303.11, Case closure criteria

- (a) The IV-D agency shall establish a system for case closure.
 - (b) The IV-D agency may elect to close a case if the case meets at least one of the following criteria and supporting documentation for the case closure decision is maintained in the case record:
 - (17) The responding agency documents failure by the initiating agency to take an action that is essential for the next step in providing services;
 - (17) The responding agency documents failure by the initiating agency to take an action that is essential for the next step in providing services;
 - (18) The initiating agency has notified the responding State that the initiating State has closed its case under §303.7(c)(11);
 - (19) The initiating agency has notified the responding State that its intergovernmental services are no longer needed;
- https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=e2dca80118a4d39367f9719b010f9c84&mc=true&node=se45.3.303_111&rgn=div8

QUESTION #86

How many states allow for the termination of parental rights of perpetrators of sexual assault who conceive a child as a result?

A: 10

B: 20

C: 30

D: 40



ANSWER #86

C

NCSL, Parental Rights and Sexual Assault, 6/21/2019

In addition, state legislatures have taken up the issue. Approximately 47 states and the District of Columbia have enacted legislation regarding the parental rights of perpetrators of sexual assault. Several states have more than one statute addressing the issue, depending on the context. For example, Georgia has provisions for both juvenile dependency (child welfare) and adoption. Others have provisions for both the termination of parental rights (TPR) and restrictions on custody and visitation. Here is the general breakdown:

Termination of Parental Rights: 30 states allow for the termination of parental rights of perpetrators of sexual assault who conceive a child as a result.

Restriction of Parental Rights: 20 states allow for some form of restriction on the parental rights of perpetrators of sexual assault.

<https://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/parental-rights-and-sexual-assault.aspx>