



**ERICSA 62ND ANNUAL
TRAINING CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION**

MAY 18-22, 2025

NORFOLK

VIRGINIA

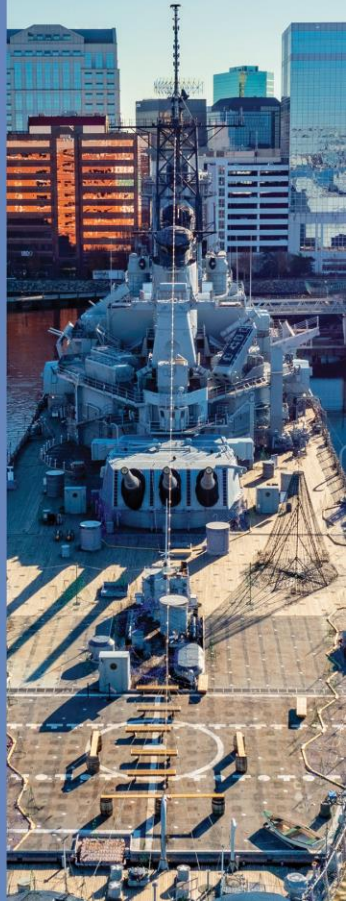
ERICSA SQUARES!

Rob Velcoff, host & writer

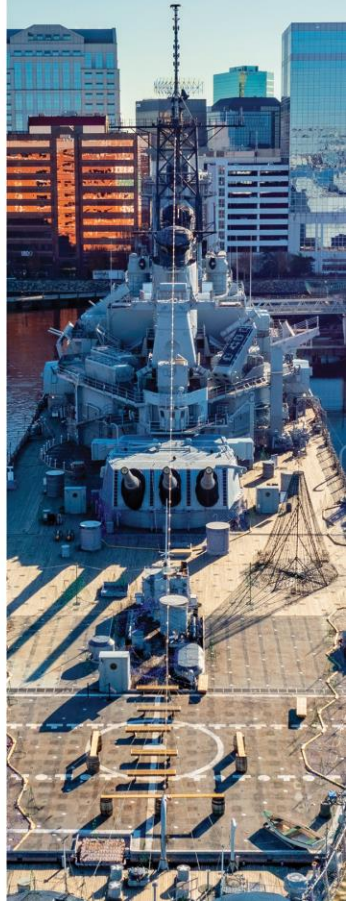


“Celebrities”:

Laura Stone – “Martin Short”
Tommy Howard – “Steve Martin”
Loretta Everett – “Selena Gomez”
Lisa Skenandore – “Janis Joplin”
Nick Palos – “Willie Nelson”
Patterson Poulson – “Troy Polamalu”
Rieda Abrams-Miller – “Marilyn Monroe”
Ray Civitella – “Sonny Bono”
Tammy Pearson – “Cher”



<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>65</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>66</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>67</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>68</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>69</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>70</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>71</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>72</u>



QUESTION #1

What are iForms?

A: International Forms – a Child Support Portal application where states can prepare Hague Child Support Convention forms.

B: Interstate Forms – a Child Support Portal application where states can prepare the federal UIFSA forms.

C: Interjurisdictional Forms – a Child Support Portal application where Tribal IV-D offices can prepare all required intergovernmental Child Support forms.

D: Speaking of “I”, “I’m sorry” and “I apologize” mean the same thing. Except at a funeral.



ANSWER #1



OCSS, Overview of the International Forms (iForms) Application, current as of April 9, 2024

International Forms (iForms) is a Child Support Portal application where states can prepare 2007 Hague Child Support Convention forms. When completed, the forms can be downloaded in multiple languages and sent by state caseworkers to foreign partners. The iForms application eliminates the need for state agencies to program the Convention forms into their state systems and reduces translation costs by allowing caseworkers to generate forms in multiple languages. It also decreases training costs because the application helps caseworkers complete the forms correctly. Forms are generated quickly because iForms enters the state and foreign partner information automatically. The application also pre-populates common case information into all forms.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/training-technical-assistance/overview-international-forms-iforms-application>

QUESTION #2

Are state and tribal child support agencies permitted to use federal financial participation (FFP) to provide employment and training services to eligible noncustodial parents?



A: No, such services are not eligible for FFP.

B: Yes, such services are eligible for FFP.

C: Yes, except that only state IV-D programs can claim FFP for these expenses; tribal IV-D programs may not.

D: Speaking of employment, teamwork in the office is important. It helps to put the blame on someone else.

ANSWER #2

B

OCSS, Final Rule: Employment and Training Services for Noncustodial Parents in the Child Support Program, ACF-OCSS-DCL-24-15, published December 13, 2024

This Final Rule, published on December 13, 2024, in the Federal Register, Volume 89, Number 240, on page 100789 (PDF) allows state and tribal child support agencies the option to use federal financial participation (FFP) available under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act to provide employment and training services to eligible noncustodial parents. This Final Rule, effective on January 13, 2025, is the culmination of years of research and data from state and federally funded projects. These projects demonstrated the effectiveness of IV-D employment and training programs and informed the standards and provisions in the final rule.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/final-rule-employment-training-services-ncps-child-support>

QUESTION #3

A recent blog highlighted by OCSS showed that what percentage of custodial parents interviewed said it was easy to work with the child support program?

A: 35%

B: 50%

C: 65%

D: Speaking of percentages, I have a joke about trickle down economics. But 99% of you will never get it.



ANSWER #3

C

OCSS, Custodial Parents' Experience with the Child Support Program, published October 18, 2024

This is the second blog that analyzes data from the 2023 Current Population Survey-Child Support Supplement (CPS-CSS) conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau roughly every two years. The survey generates a nationally representative sample of custodial parents with children under 21 in the home. The 2023 CPS-CSS added several new questions for custodial parents about their experience working with the child support program. The first question asked whether it was easy or hard to work with the program. Sixty-five percent of custodial parents said it was easy to work with the child support program.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/ocsedatablog/2024/10/custodial-parents-experience-child-support-program>

QUESTION #4

What is the Tribal Employment Pathways Initiative?

A: OCSS's latest initiative to help hire and train highly qualified staff to work in tribal IV-D offices.

B: Tribes providing employment and training services to improve their economic outlook and empower citizens.

C: A new program to hire tribal child support workers with real life experience in the IV-D child support program.

D: Speaking of employment and working, my girlfriend left a note on the refrigerator that said, "This isn't working." I'm not sure what she's talking about? I opened the fridge door and it's working fine!



ANSWER #4

B

OCSS Tribal Employment Pathways, current as of 10/4/24

One common goal of many tribes is to provide employment and training services to improve the economic outlook and empower citizens. Child support programs are uniquely positioned to provide services directly to families to promote and ensure the well-being of children. While many tribes have tribal employment programs, bringing employment services directly to parents in the child support caseload ensures parents are able to remove barriers to providing stable support for their children. Your program will be unique to the priorities, values, goals, and needs of your tribe. The Tribal Employment Pathways initiative can help tribal child support programs plan and implement a program for employment and training services.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/child-support-professionals/tribal-agencies/tribal-employment-pathways>

QUESTION #5

How many employers are currently using the e-IWO Online option on the Child Support Portal to download income withholding orders?

A: More than 250

B: More than 500

C: More than 1000

D: Only 1. I'm afraid that unless your noncustodial parent works for the "Codfather Fish & Bait Store" in Biloxi MS, you'll have to send out a paper IWO.



ANSWER #5

C

OCSS, 1,000 employers enrolled in e-IWO Online, dated December 18, 2024

More than 1,000 employers are using the e-IWO Online option on the Child Support Portal to download income withholding orders. Since December 2023, employers downloaded over 25,000 IWOs from 53 states and territories. Learn about the e-IWO options for employers and how they work in this e-IWO overview flyer.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/news/1000-employers-enrolled-e-iwo-online-chirp>

QUESTION #6

According to a recent blog on the OCSS website, custodial parents of which race had the largest percentage increase between 2004 and 2023?

A: Caucasian

B: African-American

C: Hispanic

D: My aunt was not a member of any of those races, and she died recently when we couldn't remember her blood type. As she died, she kept telling us to "be positive", but it's hard without her.

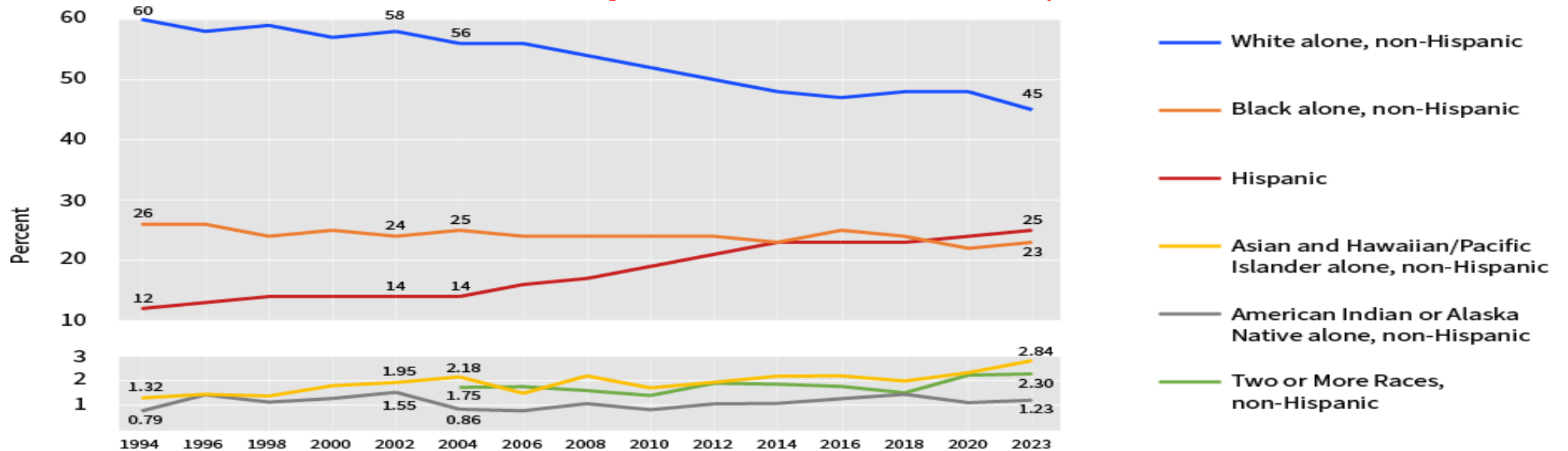


ANSWER #6

C

OCSS, Race and Ethnicity of Custodial Parents, 7/30/2024

Race and Ethnicity of Custodial Parents, 1994 to 2023



QUESTION #7

A recent Wisconsin study suggests that child support orders for foster care cost-recovery actually delayed reunification. The research showed that child support orders increased the amount of time kids spent in out-of-home care by how much?

A: double

B: triple

C: quadruple

D: duodecuple – a bonus point if you know how many that is!



ANSWER #7

A

OCSS, Study on child welfare referrals to child support,
dated August 2, 2024

... we find that having a mother-to-government order in place significantly increases the length of foster care placement; point estimates suggest the length of time about doubles. Further, we find that having a cost-recovery order in place reduces the likelihood that any or all of a mother's children achieve permanency — a result fully driven by a reduction in reunification, as we find no effect of having a cost-recovery order in place on whether any of a mother's children exit foster care to another type of permanency.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/news/study-child-welfare-referrals-child-support-chirp>

QUESTION #8

Using the Passport Denial Program, since 1998, states have reported collecting more than how much money in lump sum payments from noncustodial parents who needed a U.S. passport.

A: \$250 million

B: \$600 million

C: \$1 billion

D: My grandfather had a passport. He once told me that my generation relies too much on the latest technology. So I unplugged his life support.



ANSWER #8

B

OCSS, Passport Denial collections exceed \$600 million!,
dated June 11, 2024

Did you know? The Passport Denial Program continues to help states collect past-due child support. Since 1998, states have reported collecting more than \$600 million in lump sum payments from noncustodial parents who needed a U.S. passport. Learn more about Passport Denial.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/news/passport-denial-collections-exceed-600-million-chirp>

QUESTION #9

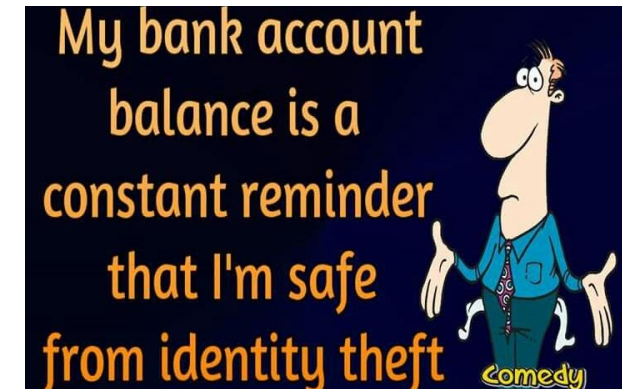
Which of these debt amounts owed by NCPs yielded the highest percentage of enrollment in the Procedural Justice-Informed Alternatives to Contempt – PJAC program?

A: owed less than \$10,000 in debt

B: owed \$10,000 - \$59,999 in debt

C: owed \$60,000 or more in debt

D: After a PJAC meeting an NCP went to his bank to withdraw money from his account to make a support payment. The clerk told him he had an outstanding balance. He said, “Thank you, I did gymnastics as a kid.”



ANSWER #9

B

OCSS, Who Benefits Most from Procedural Justice-Informed Alternatives to Contempt in the Child Support Program?, dated April 2024

Figure 1. Characteristics of NCPs at PJAC Enrollment – Complexity of Child Support Cases

- 39% – owed less than \$10,000 in debt
- 49% – owed \$10,000 - \$59,999 in debt
- 12% – owed \$60,000 or more in debt
- 32% – oldest case was 5 years old or newer
- 31% – had a debt only case
- 34% – had a previous contempt filing

https://www.mdrc.org/sites/default/files/Who_Benefits_Most_from_PJAC.pdf

QUESTION #10

May IV-D agencies disclose confidential child support information and FTI to independent contractors if they are under contract to the IV-D agency?

A: Yes, to both child support information and FTI.

B: Only child support information, but not FTI.

C: No, neither child support information nor FTI.

D: Speaking of independent contractors, as I get older, I remember all the people I lost along the way. Maybe a career as a independent tour guide was not the right choice.



ANSWER #10

A

Strengthening State and Tribal Child Support Enforcement Act, ACF-OCSS-DCL-25-02, published January 16, 2025

Public Law 118-258 - Supporting America's Children and Families Act was signed by President Biden on January 4, 2025. Section 202 of this law, titled the Strengthening State and Tribal Child Support Enforcement Act, amends Section 6103(I) of the Internal Revenue Code to provide tribal IV-D programs with direct access to federal tax information (FTI). The legislation also formally authorizes state and tribal child support programs to disclose FTI to any agent under contract with such child support program for purposes of establishing and collecting child support obligations and locating individuals owing such obligations. Additionally, the Act amends section 464 of the Social Security Act to authorize tribal IV-D programs direct access to FTI to collect past-due child support from federal tax refund offsets. OCSS will take appropriate steps and work with the IRS to implement the amended statute.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/strengthening-state-and-tribal-child-support-enforcement-act>

QUESTION #11

Federally recognized good cause domestic violence waivers can excuse a TANF applicant from child support cooperation for how long of a time period?

A: six months

B: one year

C: two years



D: Unrelated joke, since I would never joke about this topic.
Welcome back to Plastic Surgery Anonymous.
Nice to see so many new faces here today!

ANSWER #11

A

OFA – OCSS Joint Letter on Child Support Cooperation Requirements, ACF-OCSS-DCL-25-01, published 1/16/25

Section 402 of the Act includes the FVO, a provision by which a state TANF agency may establish standards and procedures to screen and identify individuals with a history of domestic violence, refer them to supportive services, and waive the child support cooperation and other TANF requirements pursuant to a determination of good cause. A state TANF agency may use these waivers, called “federally recognized good cause domestic violence waivers,” to excuse a TANF applicant or recipient from child support cooperation for six months at a time.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/ofa-ocss-joint-letter-child-support-cooperation-requirements>

QUESTION #12

In an intergovernmental case, can the responding IV-D agency close a case using the domestic violence good cause case closure code if it has reason to believe it's not safe to proceed?

A: Yes, any state may close their IV-D case under these circumstances.

B: Only if this is one of the federal case closure criteria that the RJ has chosen to utilize.

C: No, only the IJ can choose to close its IV-D case under these circumstances.

D: National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE.

ANSWER #12

C

Policies to Promote Safety and Economic Stability for Survivors of Domestic Violence in the Child Support Program, ACF-OCSS-PIQ-25-01, published on 1/14/2025

Question 4: In an intergovernmental case, can the responding IV-D agency close a case using the good cause case closure code if it has reason to believe it's not safe to proceed?

Answer 4: No, the responding state may not use 45 CFR 303.11(b)(14), known as the good cause case closure code, to close an intergovernmental case. Federal law limits a responding state IV-D agency's ability to close a case to the closure criteria under 45 CFR 303.11(b)(17) through (19):

(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.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/policies-promote-safety-and-economic-stability-survivors-domestic-violence>

QUESTION #13

In 2025, what is the total incentive pool provided by the federal government that all states must share based on child support collections and the five federal performance measures?

A: \$511,927,846

B: \$735,530,084

C: \$972,051,243



D: Speaking of spending money, my girlfriend's birthday is in a week and she said, "Nothing would make me happier than a diamond ring!" So I got her nothing.

ANSWER #13

B

FY 2025 Incentive Payment Pool Amount, ACF-OCSS-DCL-24-14, published December 10, 2024

The amount of the incentive payment pool for fiscal year 2025 is \$735,530,084. In accordance with the provisions of 42 U.S.C. 658a, incentives are based on child support collections and state performance levels on the five federal performance measures. Data must be complete and reliable, as determined by data reliability audits.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/fy-2025-incentive-payment-pool-amount>

QUESTION #14

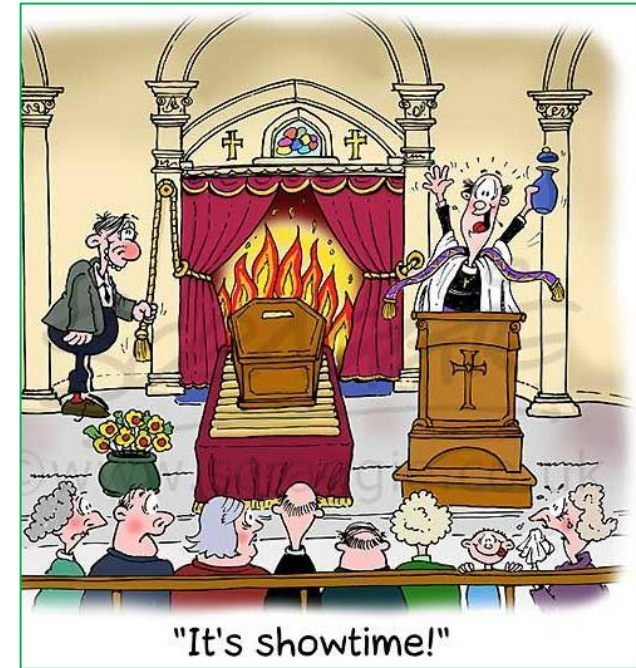
Which one of these is NOT a recognized best practice in Child Support System Modernization.

A: Compatible with legacy systems.

B: Involve the right people.

C: Apply strategies for success.

D: I need a system that improves the quality of cremations.
After all, cremation is my final hope for a smokin' hot body!



ANSWER #14



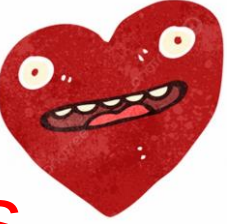
Best Practices in Child Support System Modernization, ACF-OCSS-DCL-24-12, published November 6, 2024

Technology is critical to support ACF goals of promoting parental responsibility and providing children with the support they need to thrive. Effective technology has the immense potential to reduce administrative burden for custodial and noncustodial parents, improve oversight for child support programs, boost productivity of program staff, ensure federal compliance, and more. Modernizing state systems that underpin child support programs is a crucial step in achieving these goals.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/best-practices-child-support-system-modernization>

QUESTION #15

Which of the following is NOT correct on the appropriate OCSS form when child support agencies are reporting SNAP-only IV-D cases?



A: On the OCSE-157, report SNAP-only referred cases as Never Assistance cases.

B: On the OCSS-34, report SNAP-only referred cases as Other Never Assistance cases.

C: On the OCSS-358, report SNAP-only referred cases as Other Category – Never Assistance cases.

D: My sister, who receives SNAP benefits, told me that they say the surest way to a man's heart is through his stomach. But she finds that going through the ribcage is a lot easier.

ANSWER #15

C

Amended Guidance for SNAP-Only Cases on Federal Reporting Forms, ACF-OCSS-AT-24-10, published 11/6/24

States that receive non-mandatory SNAP referrals must require applications from recipients pursuant to 45 CFR 302.33. States that require cooperation of SNAP recipients must determine that the referral is an appropriate referral to the IV-D agency. SNAP-only IV-D cases must be reported on the OCSE-157 and OCSS-34 federal forms as outlined below to enable OCSS to accurately account for these cases:

- On the OCSE-157, report SNAP-only referred cases as Never Assistance cases.
- On the OCSS-34, report SNAP-only referred cases as Other Never Assistance cases.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/amended-guidance-snap-only-cases-federal-reporting-forms>

QUESTION #16

What do the following states and territories all have in common, as it relates to child support: CA, CO, CT, DE, DC, GU, HI, IL, IN, IA, KS, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MT, NE, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PR, RI, SC, VT, VA, WI.

A: They have all enacted a state-level earned income tax credit, in addition to the federal earned income tax credit.

B: They all have an age of emancipation of 18, or 19 if the child is still in high school.

C: None of them have a timeframe-specific statute of limitations on collecting child support arrears.

D: They all have a huge Muppet fanbase. Speaking of which, what did Kermit the Frog say at his puppeteer's funeral? Not a word.



ANSWER #16

A

NCSL, Earned Income Tax Credit Enactments, updated 11/12/2024 **AND** IRS, States and local governments with Earned Income Tax Credit, updated December 5, 2024

Thirty-one states, the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico have enacted a state earned income tax credit (EITC). State laws tend to be based on a percentage of the federal EITC and can range from 3% to 125% of the federal law. Other state efforts include reaching out to eligible workers so they know about the EITC and how to file for it. This table is a compilation of state EITC laws enacted from 2009-present. **AND** The IRS page contained some conflicting information.

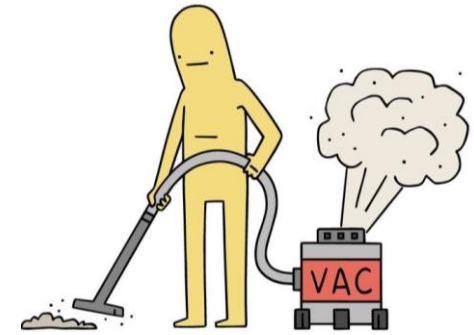
<https://www.ncsl.org/human-services/eitc-enactments>

<https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit/states-and-local-governments-with-earned-income-tax-credit>

QUESTION #17

The OCSS security and privacy program requires state child support agencies to affirm continued compliance with the Security Agreement and the Automated Systems for Child Support Enforcement certification guide by executing a Certified Statement every ...

A: three years B: two years C: one year



D: As often as it takes to learn the following about vacuum cleaners: Don't vacuum and listen to loud music on your headphones at the same time. I finished three rooms before I realized the vacuum wasn't even on!

ANSWER #17

C

2025 Certification Statement of Compliance with Security and Privacy Requirements Due June 28, ACF-OCSS-DCL-25-03, published April 22, 2025

The OCSS security and privacy program requires state child support agencies to annually affirm continued compliance with the Security Agreement and the Automated Systems for Child Support Enforcement certification guide by executing the attached Certification Statement. This does not apply to tribal child support agencies. The security and privacy program protects Federal Parent Locator Service data and confidential child support program information.

<https://acf.gov/css/policy-guidance/2025-certification-statement-compliance-security-and-privacy-requirements-due>

QUESTION #18

Are tribal child support agencies eligible to apply for Section 1115 discretionary grant funding, just like the states are?



A: Yes, tribal agencies are eligible to apply for these grants.

B: Yes, unless they choose to apply for a waiver to conduct experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects instead.

C: No, tribal agencies are ineligible to apply for these grants.

D: My dentist applied for one of these grants. The last time I went to see him he warned me it was going to hurt. He ended up telling me he was having an affair with my wife.

ANSWER #18

C

Section 1115 Grant Funding Process – Update, ACF-OCSS-IM-24-04, published June 10, 2024

Effective October 1, 2024, tribal child support agencies are no longer eligible to apply for Section 1115 discretionary grant funding because tribal project costs are covered by Title IV-D mandatory funding. Tribal child support agencies should instead apply for a waiver to conduct experimental, pilot, or demonstration projects (see ACF-OCSS-AT-24-02 and ACF-OCSS-TDCL-24-02).

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/section-1115-grant-funding-process-update>

QUESTION #19

How many different countries does the U.S. work child support cases with, either because they are Hague countries or because there is a federal bi-lateral agreement in place?

A: 36

B: 48

C: 60



D: Speaking of international, I'm half Egyptian, on my mummy's side. **(Ray Civitella joke)**

ANSWER #19

B

OCSS, International, current as of September 3, 2024

Child support reciprocity

U.S. states process cases with certain countries under different types of reciprocity arrangements, including:

- Hague Convention countries — countries that have joined the Hague Child Support Convention, and
- Foreign reciprocating countries (FRCs) — countries and Canadian provinces/territories that have bilateral arrangements with the U.S. government and have not joined the Hague Convention.

See the full list of Hague Convention countries and FRCs below. Click on the country name to access country-specific case processing and payments information.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/partners/international>

QUESTION #20

Interstate question, because Rob likes that stuff. Which of the following UIFSA forms are NOT required when one state sends another state a request to register their child support order for enforcement only?

A: Child Support Agency Confidential Information

B: Personal Information Form For UIFSA § 311

C: Letter of Transmittal Requesting Registration

D: The host is being evil & tricky (two of my better qualities), because all three of these forms are actually required.



ANSWER #20

B

OCSS, UIFSA Forms Matrix, Requests to Open an Intergovernmental IV-D Case

For cases with existing orders from another jurisdiction (not the responding state):
Register and enforce.

1. Child Support Enforcement Transmittal #1 – Initial Request (Check action 4.A or D.)
2. Child Support Agency Confidential Information Form
3. Letter of Transmittal Requesting Registration

QUESTION #21

Obligatory host state question: what is the age of emancipation in Virginia?

A: 18

B: 19

C: 18, or 19 if the child is still in high school

D: Speaking of children, I asked my kids why, when their mother dies, I won't be attending her funeral? Because I'll be in jail for murder!



ANSWER #21

C

ERICSA, Intergovernmental Improvement, Duration of Support by State 12-01-2023

Virginia: Support will continue for any child that is a full-time high school student, not self-supporting, and living in the home of the parent, until the child reaches the age of nineteen (19) or graduates from high school, whichever comes first. Support terminates when the child turns 18 if the child is not in high school. Url : <http://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/16.1-228>

<https://ericsa.org/intergovernmental-improvement/>
<https://ericsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Duration-of-Support.pdf>

QUESTION #22

What was the Distributed Collections total in the U.S. in 2023?

A: \$26.7 billion

B: \$20.9 billion

C: \$15.3 billion



D: Giving money away always reminds me of my relatives. My senior relatives liked to tease me at weddings, saying things like, "You'll be next!" They stopped once I started saying the same thing to them at funerals.

ANSWER #22

A

OCSS Preliminary Report, FY 2023, Table P-1, Financial Overview for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 7

2023 = \$26,677,003,008
2022 = \$27,404,108,381
2021 = \$29,521,877,168
2020 = \$31,422,753,145
2019 = \$28,767,185,944

QUESTION #23

What was the total IV-D caseload in the U.S. in 2023?

A: just over 18 million

B: just over 15 million

C: just over 12 million

D: I was thinking about this just the other day. I was also thinking about marriage. So I asked my phone, “Siri, why am I still single?” and it activated the front camera.



ANSWER #23

C

OCSS Preliminary Report, FY 2023, Table P-2, Statistical Overview for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 8

2023 = 12,054,010
2022 = 12,300,110
2021 = 12,665,871
2020 = 13,203,628
2019 = 13,604,791

QUESTION #24

Which state/territory had the lowest percentage of undistributed collections in 2023?



BOO!!!



A: Texas

B: Wyoming

C: Pennsylvania



HISS!!!

D: People from this state know not to challenge Death to a pillow fight. Unless you're prepared for the reaper cushions.

ANSWER #24

B

OCSS Preliminary Report, FY 2023, Table P-17, Percent of Undistributed Collections (UDC) for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 23

The ten states with the lowest percentage of UDC were: Wyoming (0.57%), Pennsylvania (0.63%), Texas (0.97%), Colorado (1.02%), Washington (1.28%), Kansas (1.35%), Montana (1.46%), Nevada (1.51%), Massachusetts (1.61%), Connecticut (1.62%).

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/fy_2023_preliminary_report.pdf

QUESTION #25

There were three Final Rules promulgated by OCSS in 2024. Which of these is NOT one of the new Final Rules?



A: Safeguarding Child Support Information

B: Modifications to Performance Standards During Natural Disasters and Other Calamities

C: Elimination of Tribal Non-Federal Share Requirement

D: Speaking of rules, to teach my kids about the rule of democracy, I let them vote on dinner. They picked tacos. Then I made pizza because we don't live in a swing state.

ANSWER #25



OCSS, Policy Guidance Overview, Recent Final Rules

DCL-24-15 Final Rule – Employment and Training Services for Noncustodial Parents in the Child Support Program: allows child support programs to use federal funds for employment and training services effective Jan. 13, 2025.

AT-24-03 Final Rule – Modifications to Performance Standards During Natural Disasters and Other Calamities: notifies states of rule that sets process for OCSS to adjust certain performance standards to a lower level to avoid imposing financial penalties.

AT-24-02 Final Rule – Elimination of Tribal Non-Federal Share Requirement: notifies tribes of elimination of non-federal share of program expenditures requirement starting FY 2025.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy>

QUESTION #26

After a referral to open a new case, within how many days must a IV-D agency open the case and establish a case record?

A: 10 calendar days

B: 20 calendar days

C: 30 calendar days

D: If this question doesn't make you angry, this joke will.
What do you call a dog with no legs? Doesn't matter.
He's not coming either way.



Yes, I even
pick on
puppies.
Deal with it!



ANSWER #26

B

Code of Federal Regulations, § 303.2(b), Establishment of cases and maintenance of case records

(b) For all cases referred to the IV-D agency or applying for services under § 302.33 of this chapter, the IV-D agency must, within no more than 20 calendar days of receipt of referral of a case or filing of an application for services under § 302.33, open a case by establishing a case record and, based on an assessment of the case to determine necessary action ...

QUESTION #27

Which of these is NOT one of the culturally specific program elements in the “Child Support 101 for Tribal Child Support Programs” training materials.

A: Cultural Understanding

B: Hands on Experience

C: Exploring Local Customs and Traditions

D: This question is stressful. Speaking of which, do you know the proper way to use a stress ball? Throw it at the last person to p#\$% you off!



ANSWER #27

C

OCSS, Child Support 101 for Tribal Child Support Programs, Tribal 101 flyer, current as of January 17, 2023

Our program also has culturally specific elements:

- Cultural understanding: Our program knows the community and works to help children financially, emotionally, and holistically. We can make referrals to community and culturally-based programs.
- Hands on experience: We're uniquely positioned to walk you through our tribal child support process and family-centered approach.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/outreach-material/child-support-101-tribal-child-support-programs>

AND

https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.acf.hhs.gov%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fdocuments%2Focse%2Ftribal_cs_101.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK

QUESTION #28

Federal Financial Participation (FFP) at the applicable matching rate is available for which of the following?

A: The development of evidence including the use of the polygraph and genetic tests.

B: The costs of counsel for indigent defendants in IV-D actions.

C: The costs of *guardians ad litem* in IV-D actions.

D: To conduct studies to determine the following: Why don't cannibals eat clowns? Because they taste funny.



ANSWER #28

A

Code of Federal Regulations, § 304.20(b)(2)(B) Availability
and rate of Federal financial participation **AND**
CFR § 304.23 Expenditures for which Federal financial
participation is not available

Federal financial participation at the applicable matching rate is not available for:

(a) Activities related to administering titles I, IV-A, IV-B, IV-E, X, XIV, XVI, XIX, XX, or XXI of the Act or 7 U.S.C. Chapter 51.

(b) Purchased support enforcement services which are not secured in accordance with § 304.22.

(c) Construction and major renovations.

(d) Education and training programs and educational services for State and county employees and court personnel except direct cost of short-term training provided to IV-D agency staff in accordance with §§ 304.20(b)(2)(viii) and 304.21.

(e) Any expenditures which have been reimbursed by fees collected as required by this chapter.

(f) Any costs of those caseworkers described in § 303.20(e) of this chapter.

(g) Any expenditures made to carry out an agreement under § 303.15 of this chapter.

(h) The costs of counsel for indigent defendants in IV-D actions.

(i) Any expenditures for jailing of parents in child support enforcement cases.

(j) The costs of *guardians ad litem* in IV-D actions.

(k) Any expenditures under § 303.6(c)(5) of this chapter for subsidized employment or payment of cash, checks, reimbursements, or any other form of payment that can be legally converted to currency provided to the noncustodial parent.

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-B/chapter-III/part-304>

QUESTION #29

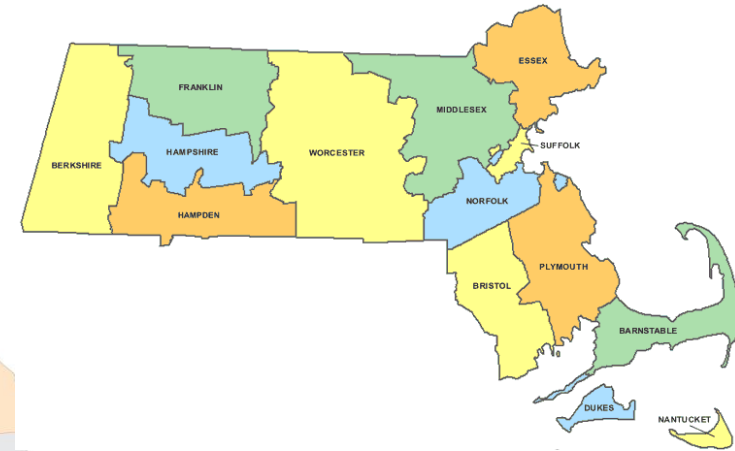
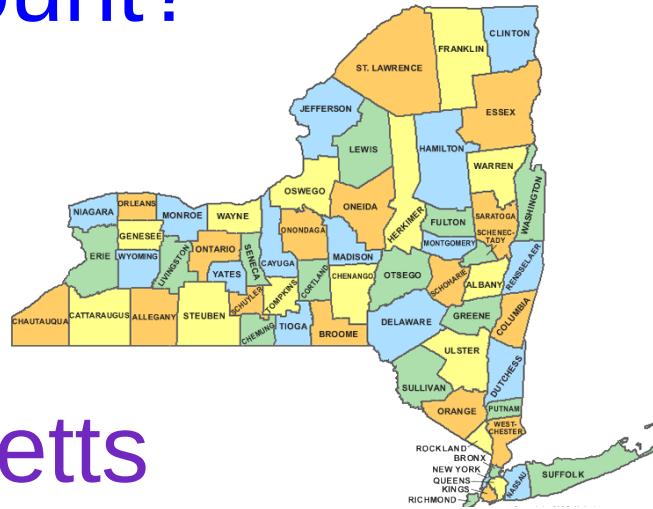
According to the National Parents Organization, which state has the highest average current monthly child support obligation amount?

A: New York

B: California

C: Massachusetts

D: Instead of a joke about this topic, I'll instead quote my personal motto: "Do not walk behind me, for I may not lead. Do not walk ahead of me, for I may not follow. Do not walk beside me either. Just pretty much leave me alone."



ANSWER #29



NPO Child Support State Comparisons, by National Parents Organization

The top ten states were (monthly dollar amount is for one child): Massachusetts – \$949, Nevada – \$781, Alaska – \$770, Texas – \$761, New Hampshire – \$749, New York – \$701, Connecticut – \$659, Kansas – \$658, Florida – \$654, Washington – \$625.

(This is not a representation of the typical child support award in the state for one child and parents with the assumed incomes. It assumes the payor parent has physical custody 35% of the time which is, unfortunately, not typical. Most child support orders will be higher than this.)

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/nationalparentsorg/viz/NPOChildSupport/Dashboard1>

QUESTION #30

Which of the following is the National Directory of New Hires NOT required to receive from the states?

A: Worker's Compensation payment info

B: Unemployment Compensation claims

C: Quarterly wage information

D: I always tell new hires, don't think of me as your boss, think of me as a friend who can fire you.



ANSWER #30

A

Code of Federal Regulations, § 303.108, Quarterly wage and unemployment compensation claims reporting to the National Directory of New Hires

(b) What data must be transmitted to the National Directory of New Hires? The State shall disclose quarterly, to the National Directory of New Hires, wage and claim information as defined in paragraph (a) of this section that is collected pursuant to a State's unemployment compensation program referenced in Title III of the Act or pursuant to section 1137 of the Act.

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-B/chapter-III/part-303/section-303.108>

QUESTION #31

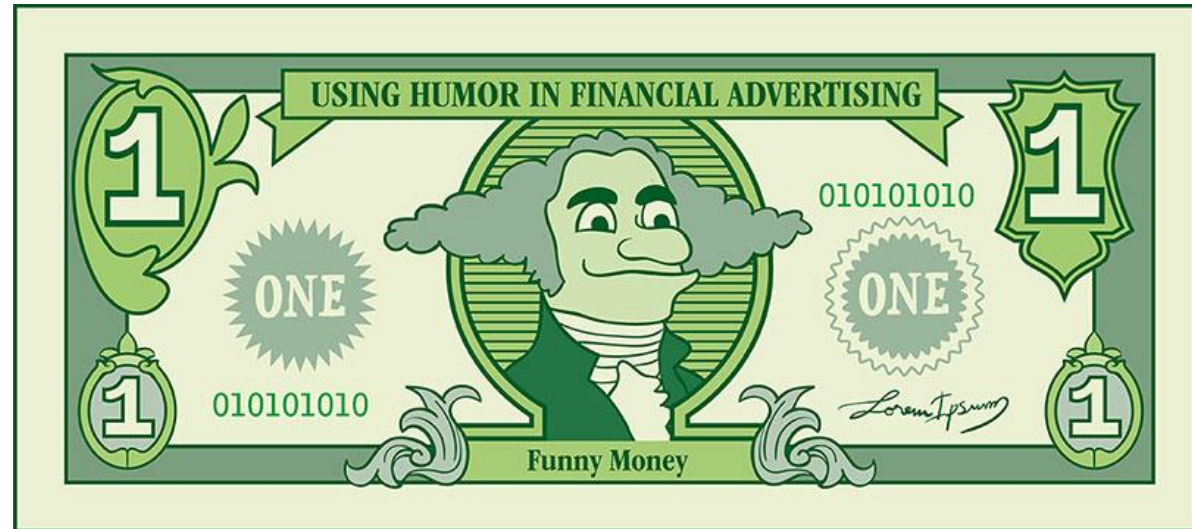
Agents or attorneys of the United States may NOT request information directly from the Federal PLS in connection with what types of cases?

A: parental kidnapping

B: adoption cases

C: child custody

D: Now that I think about it, if U.S. agents can print money, then why are we paying taxes?!?



ANSWER #31

B

Code of Federal Regulations, § 303.15, Agreements to use the Federal Parent Locator Service (PLS) in parental kidnapping and child custody or visitation cases **AND** § 303.69 Requests by agents or attorneys of the United States for information from the Federal aren't Locator Services (PLS)

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-B/chapter-III/part-303/section-303.15>
<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-B/chapter-III/part-303/section-303.69>

AND

QUESTION #32

The enforcement of a U.S. order in a Hague Convention country is known by what term?

A: reciprocal

B: recognition

C: registration

D: Joke about traveling around, which is almost related to this question: "My driving instructor told me to pull over somewhere safe. After 10 minutes he asked me why I had not pulled over yet. I said it's because we're still in Norfolk."



ANSWER #32

B

UIFSA Section 704, Initiation by [Government Entity] of Support Proceeding Under Convention

(b) The following support proceedings are available to an obligee under the Convention:
(1) recognition or recognition and enforcement of a foreign support order.

<https://www.uniformlaws.org/viewdocument/final-act-161?CommunityKey=71d40358-8ec0-49ed-a516-93fc025801fb&tab=librarydocuments>

QUESTION #33

How many days does a IV-D agency have to take any appropriate enforcement action, not counting income withholding and federal and state income tax offset, unless service of process is necessary?

A: 10 calendar days

B: 20 calendar days

C: 30 calendar days

D: Speaking of (special) days, my wife is mad that I ruined our anniversary. I'm not sure how, I didn't even know it was today.



ANSWER #33

C

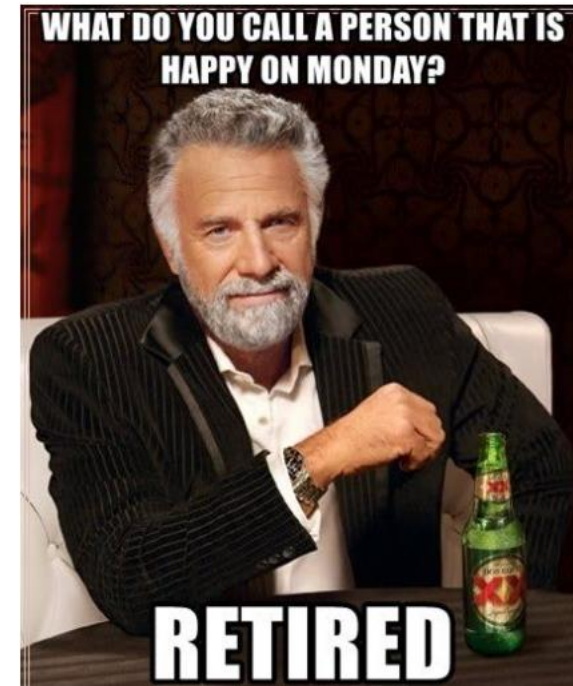
Code of Federal Regulations, § 303.6(c)(2), Enforcement of support obligations

(2) Taking any appropriate enforcement action (except income withholding and Federal and State income tax refund offset) unless service of process is necessary, within no more than 30 calendar days of identifying a delinquency or other support-related non-compliance with the order or the location of the noncustodial parent, whichever occurs later. If service of process is necessary prior to taking an enforcement action, service must be completed (or unsuccessful attempts to serve process must be documented in accordance with the State's guidelines defining diligent efforts under § 303.3(c)), and enforcement action taken if process is served, within no later than 60 calendar days of identifying a delinquency or other support-related non-compliance with the order, or the location of the noncustodial parent, whichever occurs later.

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-B/chapter-III/part-303/section-303.6>

QUESTION #34

Which of these is NOT a committee you can join by being a member of ERICSA?



A: International and Tribal Reciprocity Committee

B: Intergovernmental Improvement Committee

C: Policy and Legislation Committee

D: The Committee for People who Love Mondays,
a/k/a the Retired Persons Committee

NOT A
VALID
ANSWER!

ANSWER #34



ERICSA, Policy & Legislation, Intergovernmental Improvement

Policy and Legislation Committee: The Policy and Legislation Committee analyzes and provides comments and recommended responses to the Board on current or proposed legislation, regulation, or policy. The committee also drafts proposed policy statements, position papers, and fact sheets to support legislative or policy initiatives.

Intergovernmental Improvement Committee: The Intergovernmental Improvement Committee issues statements and recommendations to the Board on matters involving statutes, judicial decisions, procedures and such other matters that come to its attention. It also disseminates information, through our web site, designed to assist our members in the performance of their duties involving intergovernmental issues.

<https://ericsa.org>

<https://ericsa.org/policy-and-legislation/>

<https://ericsa.org/intergovernmental-improvement/>

QUESTION #35

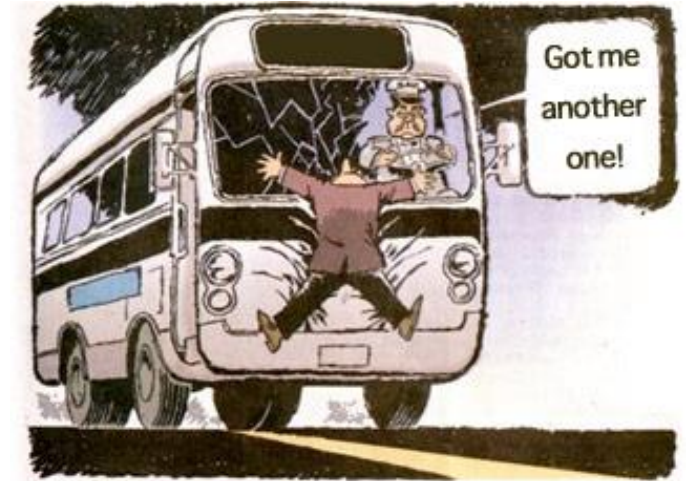
What is the date of the Full Faith and Credit for Child Support Orders Act, which, among other things, said that a state cannot establish a new child support order when there is already a current order from another state?

A: October 20, 1994

B: October 21, 1999

C: October 22, 2004

D: Speaking of dates, today was the worst day of my life. My ex got hit by a school bus, and I lost my job as a bus driver.



ANSWER #35

A

Full Faith and Credit for Child Support Orders Act, IM-95-03,
published July 13, 1995, current as of November 18, 2021

The Full Faith and Credit for Child Support Orders Act was effective on October 20, 1994. This law requires States to enforce child support orders made by other States and prohibits States from modifying other States' child support orders unless certain jurisdictional requirements are met.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/policy-guidance/full-faith-and-credit-child-support-orders-act>

QUESTION #36

OCSS conducts audits at least how often to assess the completeness, authenticity, reliability, accuracy and security of data?

A: once every year

B: once every three years

C: once every five years

D: You know that the federal auditors are not well-liked because every single time a group photo gets taken, they get handed the camera.



ANSWER #36

B

Code of Federal Regulations, § 305.60(a), Types and scope of Federal audits

(a) OCSE will conduct audits, at least once every three years (or more frequently if the State fails to meet performance standards and reliability of data requirements) to assess the completeness, authenticity, reliability, accuracy and security of data and the systems used to process the data in calculating performance indicators under this part.

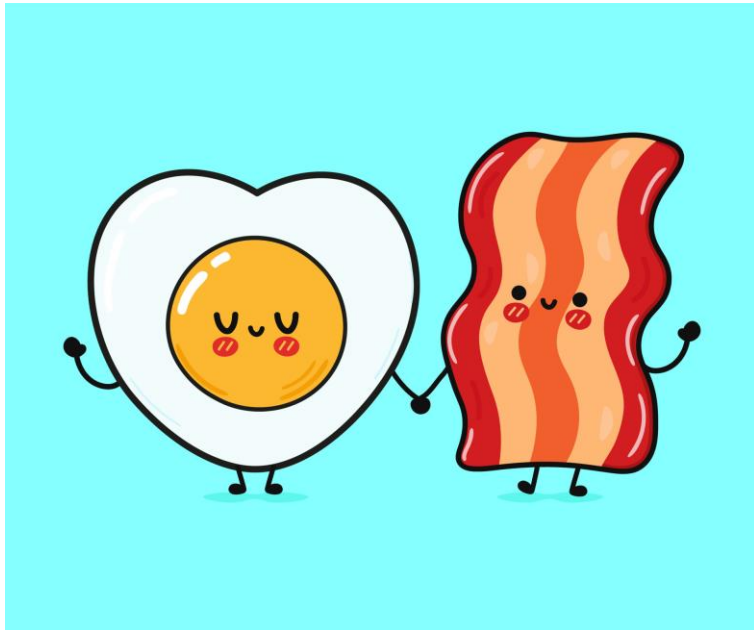
QUESTION #37

Serving those who serve us, approximately what percentage of military families (active duty and reserve/guard) are single parents?

A: 24%

B: 12%

C: 6%



D: Speaking of serving, bacon and eggs walk into a bar. The bartender says, "Sorry, we don't serve breakfast here."

ANSWER #37

C

Working with the Military on Child Support Matters, Military Trainer Guide, published October 10, 2023

The Pentagon reported in 2019 that approximately 36.5% of active-duty members and 41% of Reserve and National Guard members are parents. Almost 6% of military families (active duty and reserve/guard) are single parents. Despite steady increases since the 1970s in the percentage of women who serve, the armed forces are still overwhelmingly male, meaning that most military parents are fathers.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/toolkit/working-military-child-support-matters-trainer-guide>

QUESTION #38

Which of the following financial institutions are NOT required to participate in the Financial Institution Data Match (FIDM) program?

A: Benefit associations, insurance companies, safe deposit companies, and money market mutual funds.

B: Leasing companies, factoring companies, and microfinance institutions.

C: Federal and state credit unions.

D: Speaking of banks, I was always told to work until my bank account looked like a phone number, so I did. My current bank account balance is \$9.11.



ANSWER #38

B

OCSS, Financial Institution Data Match Overview, current as of April 30, 2024

Financial Institutions that Must Participate in FIDM:

- Banks, savings & loans
- Federal & State Credit Unions
- Benefit associations, insurance companies, safe deposit companies, money market mutual funds

QUESTION #39

Which of these is NOT one of the three main approaches to identify, recruit, and enroll program participants into an employment services program for noncustodial parents?

A: Open Enrollment – allowing both IV-D and non-IV-D participation

B: Mandatory – court ordered participation

C: Voluntary – accepting referrals and allowing self-enrollment

D: Speaking of employment, my boss says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. We'll see about that!



ANSWER #39



OCSS, Existing Program Models, current as of July 22, 2024

There are three main approaches for identifying, recruiting, and enrolling program participants. Each program model overview provides key program elements and things to consider while exploring each option:

- Mandatory — court ordered participation
- Voluntary — accepting referrals and allowing self-enrollment
- Comprehensive — both mandatory and voluntary participation

QUESTION #40

Which of these terms is defined as a court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial entity authorized under state law to establish, enforce, or modify support orders or to determine parentage?

A: judicatory

B: forum

C: tribunal

D: Words recently overheard outside a courtroom:

Son: "Dad, did you get the results of the DNA test back?"

Dad: "Call me George."



ANSWER #40

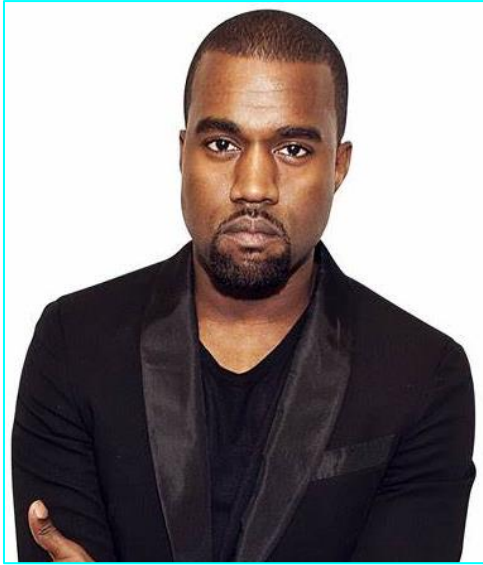
C

Code of Federal Regulations, § 301.1, General definitions

Tribunal means a court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial entity authorized under State law to establish, enforce, or modify support orders or to determine parentage.

QUESTION #41

Which celebrity has the highest child support obligation?



A: Kanye West

B: Alex Rodriguez

C: Charlie Sheen

D: One of these guys!



ANSWER #41



PEOPLE, Celebrities Who Pay The Most Child Support, updated April 22, 2024

1. Kanye West — \$200,000/month
2. Alex Rodriguez — \$115,000/month
3. Charlie Sheen — \$110,000/month
4. Kirk Kerkorian — \$100,000/month
5. Brendan Fraser — \$75,000/month
6. Sean Combs — \$55,000/month
7. Nas — \$51,000/month
8. Eddie Murphy — \$50,000/month
9. François-Henri Pinault — \$46,000/month
10. Terrell Owens — \$45,000/month

QUESTION #42

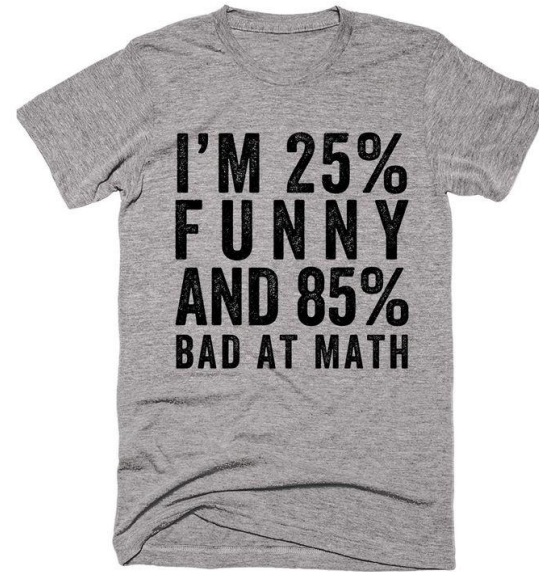
Custodial-mother families are more likely to live in poverty than custodial-father families. What are the percentages?

A: 17% versus 11%

B: 27% versus 11%

C: 37% versus 11%

D: Numbers always mix me up. For example, I got my COVID test back today and it said 60. What does that mean? Also, my IQ test came back positive.



ANSWER #42

B

The Annie E. Casey Foundation, Child Support Statistics in the United States, updated June 29, 2024

Data on Custodial Parents by Gender:

The Census Bureau's 2020 report also provides a sharper look at the differences between custodial-mother families and custodial-father families. It shares that:

- In 2018, there were 12.9 million custodial parents nationwide; 80% were mothers and 20% were fathers.
- Custodial-mother families were more likely to live in poverty (27% versus 11% for custodial-father families).
- Custodial fathers were more likely to be employed full time year round (74% versus 51% of custodial mothers).
- Custodial fathers were less likely to be unemployed (9% versus 22% for custodial mothers).
- Custodial mothers are more likely to participate in at least one public assistance program (45% versus 26% for custodial fathers).

<https://www.aecf.org/blog/child-support-statistics>

QUESTION #43

Which of these questions is NOT asked in the Profile section of the IRG?

A: What is your state's definition of a lump sum, if it has one?

B: To which credit bureaus does your state report a noncustodial parent's child support information?

C: What is the administrative additional amount your state adds to an IWO to help collect any arrears owed?

D: Speaking of Q&A, here's the Jeopardy answer:

“Are you still holding the ladder?” Question: “What were my Grandfather's last words to me just before he died?”



NOT A
VALID
ANSWER!

ANSWER #43

C

OCSS Child Support Portal, IRG

11. Lump Sum Payments: 1. What is your state's definition of a lump sum, if it has one? Provide the statutory citation. (Note: States may define "lump sum" more broadly than only employer-related lump sums.)

9. Enforcement: 4. To which credit bureaus does your state report a noncustodial parent's child support information?

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

QUESTION #44

Which of these is NOT a way to become a member of ERICSA?



A: Attend the annual conference which enrolls (or renews) you as a member until the next annual conference.

B: Attend any of our online webinars or interjurisdictional fairs.

C: Pay a \$75 annual membership fee.

NOT A
VALID
ANSWER!

D: Personally pay Rob Velcoff a discounted rate of \$74.99.

ANSWER #44

~~D~~ B

ERICSA, Membership

Signup for Membership: There are two ways you can become a member or renew your existing membership in ERICSA. One, by attending the annual conference which enrolls (or renews) you as a member until the next annual conference. Or two, if you are unable to attend the conference please fill out the form below and remit a \$75 payment. Both methods entitle you to all the member benefits.

<https://ericsa.org/membership/>

QUESTION #45

Which federal government agency helps OCSS and states enforce delinquent child support obligations using the Passport Denial Program?

A: The Bureau of the Fiscal Service

B: The Internal Revenue Service

C: The Department of State

D: The U.S. Department of Mental Health, who claims that three out of five people suffer from a chronic disease. Does that mean that two of them enjoy it?

me trying to protect my mental health



ANSWER #45



OCSS, Federal Partners, current as of June 2, 2023

Department of State (State Department): The State Department helps OCSS and states enforce delinquent child support obligations using the Passport Denial Program.

Resources:

- Overview of the Passport Denial Program
- State Child Support Agency Passport Denial Program Contacts
- List of Regional Passport Agencies
- State Department Website for Passports
- State Department Website for Travel

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/partners/federal-partners>

QUESTION #46

In a recent report entitled “Staff and Parent Perceptions of Fairness, Bias, and Disparities in Child Support”, workers that were interviewed identified which of the following ways in which institutional capabilities and practices at IV-D agencies can lead to differences in parents’ experiences?

A: The level of discretion available to caseworkers.

B: Disproportionate education levels of the parties.

C: Cultural values of the case participants.

D: One of the case participants said that her husband told her to do whatever makes her happy. She said she’s going to miss him.



ANSWER #46



Staff and Parent Perceptions of Fairness, Bias, and Disparities in Child Support, November 2024

Staff members identified various ways in which institutional capabilities and practices at child support agencies — such as case management structures, communication practices, caseload sizes, and the level of discretion available to caseworkers in decision-making — can lead to differences in parents' experiences. While staff members said that there was a lot of variation in how different caseworkers engage with parents and how they use the discretion available to them to make enforcement decisions, most did not feel that bias played a role in how workers approached their cases or in any potential outcome disparities.

https://mdrc.org/sites/default/files/Staff_and_Parent_Perceptions_of_Fairness_Bias_2024.pdf

QUESTION #47

What is this a description of: “_____ is a new platform through our ERICSA Facebook community that is the go-to source for the latest news, updates, and essential information in the child support community such as upcoming events, state, regional and tribal community insights and legislative updates.”?

A: ERICSA Discussion Forum

B: ERICSA Bulletin Board

C: ERICSA Virtual Information Platform

D: Facebook is just like a never-ending high school reunion, minus the awkward dancing.

“Like us on
Facebook! NOW!!!



ANSWER #47

B

ERICSA Intergovernmental Community

The Intergovernmental Improvement Committee has created the Bulletin Board space through ERICSA's Facebook page. The space is called the "ERICSA Intergovernmental Community" and this is a description of the type of information we are seeking from our child support colleagues: "The Bulletin Board is a new platform through our ERICSA Facebook community that is the go-to source for the latest news, updates, and essential information in the child support community such as upcoming events, state, regional and tribal community insights and legislative updates." We welcome any contributions at the following email address info@ericsa.org. We will review them as soon as possible after they are received. Please consider joining and if you have a best practice share with the group so we can share with other members.

<https://ericsa.org/2025/03/20/2025-2026-board-nominations-copy/>

QUESTION #48

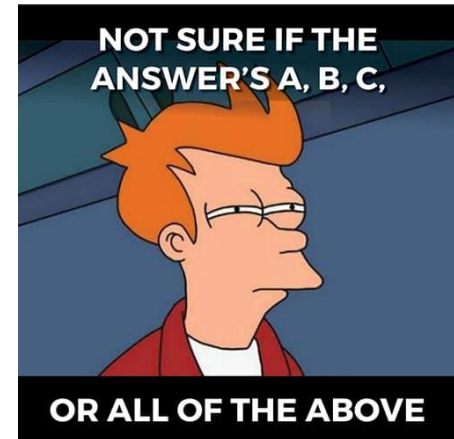
Employers can use the OCSS Child Support Portal to notify participating child support agencies about upcoming lump sum payments to employees who owe child support. Lump sum payments include which of the following?

A: cash service awards and commissions

B: severance pay and vacation pay

C: retroactive pay increases and sign on bonuses

D: I'm not sure I even understand the question, so I'll be lazy and just say: "All of the above."



ANSWER #48

D

OCSS, Bonus/Lump Sum Reporting, current as of October 30, 2024

Employers can use the OCSS Child Support Portal to notify participating child support agencies about upcoming lump sum payments to employees who owe child support. Lump sum payments are income and can be attached to collect child support. Lump Sum payments include:

- Bonus
- Cash service award
- Commission
- Retroactive pay increase
- Severance
- Sign on bonus
- Vacation pay

Download the Employer Lump Sum Reporting fact sheet to learn more.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/employers/child-support-portal/bonus-lump-sum-reporting>

QUESTION #49

Child support guidelines in each state must be based on which of the following?

- A: On the premise that the basic needs of the child must be met.
- B: That both parents must contribute appropriately to the child support obligation.
- C: On the noncustodial parent's earnings, income, and other evidence of ability to pay.
- D: Speaking of guidance, I was talking to my therapist and he said, "You tend to pursue damaged people and try to help them." I was like, "So do you."



"You know, option 'D' really has absolutely nothing to do with the topic in question."

ANSWER #49

C

OCSS, Flexibility, Efficiency, and Modernization in Child Support Enforcement Programs – Guidelines

This rule makes the following changes to child support guidelines (§ 302.56(c)(1)). First, state child support guidelines must provide that a child support order be “based on the noncustodial parent’s earnings, income, and other evidence of ability to pay”. This change codifies OCSE’s longstanding interpretation of statutory guideline requirements and reflects the basic principle underlying the federal child support guidelines statute – that application of state guidelines should result in income-based orders. The existing federal regulation that guidelines must consider all earnings and income of the noncustodial parent is unchanged.

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

QUESTION #50

Last summer OCSS awarded grant and waiver funding to nine states and counties and tribes to implement which of the following projects?

A: The Next Generation Child Support Employment Services Demonstration (NextGen) project.

B: The Safe Access for Victims' Economic Security (SAVES) project.

C: The Procedural Justice-Informed Alternatives to Contempt (PJAC) project.

D: A project to investigate why this elderly man fell into a well. Apparently, he couldn't see that well.

"Wow, Rob,
that one was
really bad!"



ANSWER #50

A

OCSS, Next Generation Child Support Employment Services (NextGen), current as of November 12, 2024

In August 2024, OCSS awarded Section 1115 grant and waiver funding to two California counties, Cherokee Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles, Louisiana, Minnesota, Nooksack Indian Tribe, Virginia, and Washington to implement the Next Generation Child Support Employment Services Demonstration (NextGen). The goal is to expand and enhance child support-led employment services for noncustodial parents to increase the reliable payment of child support and improve the financial well-being of children. OCSS also awarded a cooperative agreement to Michigan to provide technical assistance and evaluate the NextGen demonstration projects and up to six related section 1115 waiver projects.

<https://acf.gov/css/grants/current-grants/nextgen-cs-employment-services>

QUESTION #51

OCSS provides program requirements, program information, policy guidance, and program instructions using several types of documents. Which of these is NOT one of those document types?

A: Administrative Directive (AD)

B: Information Memorandum (IM)

C: Policy Interpretation Question (PIQ)

D: Every Reported piece of Information and Correspondence Selected to be Answered (ERICSA)

NOT A
VALID
ANSWER!



“Wow, what a coincidence!”

ANSWER #51



OCSS, Policy

Policy Guidance Overview:

OCSS provides program requirements, program information, policy guidance, and program instructions using several types of documents.

- Action Transmittal (AT) describes actions that programs must take to comply with new and amended federal laws (available from 1975)
- Dear Colleague Letter (DCL) conveys general information on program activities (available from 1989)
- Information Memorandum (IM) provides information on program practices that may be useful for program improvement (available from 1989)
- Policy Interpretation Question (PIQ) responds formally to policy inquiries (available from 1999)
- International Policy transmits guidance on international child support (available from 1993)
- Tribal Policy provides guidance on tribal child support (available from 1995)

<https://acf.gov/css/policy>

QUESTION #52

Which of these is a new bill that was introduced into Congress earlier this year?

- A: The Equal Parenting Time Bill, which requires child support orders to be adjusted based on the percentage of custody awarded to each parent.
- B: Bentley's Law, where anyone convicted of drunk driving and killing a parent would have to pay any child support obligation that person might have had.
- C: The Unborn Child Support Bill, where child support would begin retroactive to the date of conception.
- D: They were originally going to propose a bill to require IV-D agencies to study sodium, but then they thought "Na."



ANSWER #52

C

H.R. 7052 – 118th Congress; AND
Newsweek, “Child Support to Change Under New Bill”,
published January 28, 2025

If passed, the bill would enable pregnant women to get child support payments. They could opt in for pre-natal payments relegated by the court system and also could work with the court for retroactive child support payments from the father. Also included under the law would be a provision allowing all paternity tests to be conducted at the discretion of the mother and not be done if it puts the child at risk.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/7052/text> AND
<https://www.newsweek.com/child-support-change-under-new-bill-republicans-2022313>

QUESTION #53

Minnesota recently conducted a pilot project to reduce driver's license suspensions using procedural justice principles. Which of these was NOT a result of this project?

- A: Significantly lowered suspension rates, from 59% to 47%.
- B: Increased long-term communications between child support workers and noncustodial parents by 23%.
- C: Appeared to reduce disparities in some outcomes for African American parents compared to white parents, including license suspensions and the use of payment agreements and arrears management.
- D: Speaking of driver's licenses, someone once left a positive review at the DMV. The manager saw it and immediately fired everyone.

ANSWER #53

B

OCSS, October 2024 Child Support Report, Oct 31, 2024

The Minnesota Management and Budget Unit evaluated the pilot by comparing parents who received pilot services to similar parents who did not. The analysis followed both sets of parents for 12 months after the pilot. Published in July 2024, the pilot analysis shared these findings:

- Temporarily increased communication between child support workers and noncustodial parents.
- Significantly lowered suspension rates. One year after the pilot, the suspension rate among participating noncustodial parents was 47% versus 59% in the comparison group. As the report indicates, “this suggests that when workers looked at noncustodial parents’ case(s) more holistically and adopted an approach tailored to their circumstances, the use of punitive remedies, like license suspensions, was reduced.”
- Appeared to reduce disparities in some outcomes for African American parents compared to white parents, including license suspensions and the use of payment agreements & arrears management.

<https://acf.gov/css/newsletter/ocsnewsletter/october-2024-child-support-report>

QUESTION #54

How many states/territories currently allow employers to charge fees when submitting employee payments due to an IWO, not counting one-time start-up fees.

A: 29

B: 39

C: 49

"Geez, I can't believe that was the best joke you could come up with for this question!"



D: Speaking of fees, I just spent \$500 on hiring a limousine and discovered the fee doesn't include a driver. I can't believe I spent all that money and have nothing to chauffeur it.

ANSWER #54

C

OCSS, State Income Withholding Contacts and Program Requirements, Matrix, current as of April 29, 2024

Most states and territories charge a nominal monthly or per payment fee, usually between \$1 – \$5. Pennsylvania and Utah allow a one-time start-up fee, \$50 and \$25 respectively. Only Connecticut, Guam, and New York do not allow employers to charge any kind of fee to the employee.

<https://acf.gov/css/contact-information/state-income-withholding-contacts-and-program-requirements>

AND

<https://ocsp.acf.hhs.gov/irg/irgpdf.pdf?geoType=OGP&groupCode=EMP&addrType=EIW&addrClassType=EMP>

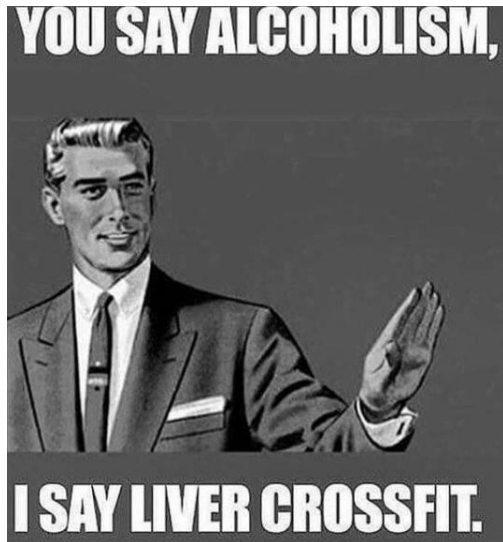
QUESTION #55

According to the IRG, how many states/territories currently utilize a Cost Of Living Adjustment (COLA) to periodically increase their child support orders.

A: 5

B: 15

C: 25



D: COLAs remind me of drinking. Speaking of which, I'll have you know that at one point in my life I did not drink any alcohol for twelve straight years. Then I turned 13.

ANSWER #55

A

OCSS, IRG, Section 10 – Modification And Review/Adjustment, question 5: “Does your state have a cost of living adjustment (COLAs) for orders?”

According to the IRG, the five states that routinely do COLAs are Delaware, Iowa, Kansas, New Jersey, and New York.

QUESTION #56

In FY 2023, Former TANF Assistance cases were what percentage of the IV-D caseload, and what percentage of collections were applied to these cases?

At least that
joke wasn't
too terrible!



A: 28% of cases and 16% of collections

B: 38% of cases and 26% of collections

C: 48% of cases and 36% of collections

D: Speaking of money, my neighbor is so cheap that when he dies, he's going to walk toward the light and turn it off.

ANSWER #56

B

Congressional Research Service, The Child Support Enforcement (CSE) Program, updated August 23, 2024

Table 1. CSE Collections by Family Type, FY2023

Family Type	Collections (billions)	Percentage
TANF Families	\$0.6	2%
Former TANF	\$7.1	26%
Never TANF	\$19.0	71%

Table 2. CSE Cases by Family Type, FY2023

Family Type	Number (millions)	Percentage
TANF Families	0.9	8%
Former TANF	4.6	38%
Never TANF	6.5	54%

<https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/if/if10113>

QUESTION #57

We're certainly enjoying our time here in the great state of Virginia. Besides this year, how many other times has Virginia been ERICSA's host state?



"Wait, where's the really bad joke?!?"

A: 5

B: 3

C: 2

D: This is actually ERICSA's first time in Virginia, a/k/a 0.

ANSWER #57

C

ERICSA, Past Presidents

ERICSA was previously held in Norfolk in 2007, and our annual conference took place in Richmond way back in 1979.

<https://ericsa.org/past-presidents/>

QUESTION #58

How many IV-D cases nationwide in FY 2023 received a Good Cause Determination?

A: 9,830

B: 14,552

C: 18,761



D: An actual child support joke: The female Praying Mantis devours the male right after mating. I guess it's easier to collect life insurance than child support.

ANSWER #58

B

OCSS Preliminary Report, FY 2023, Table P-91, Cases Open with Good Cause Determinations for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 97

The number of determinations per state yields some interesting results, and is disproportional to caseload size. Only six states had over one thousand in this category: Oregon – 4540, Missouri – 2454, California – 1493, New York – 1042, Massachusetts – 1028, Arkansas – 1026. The following states had 0 Good Cause Determinations in 2023: Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, New Mexico, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/fy_2023_preliminary_report.pdf

QUESTION #59

OCSS has a list of dozens of acronyms and other terms used by child support workers. In this glossary you will find (among many other abbreviations) “NACHA”, which is ...



A: National Automated Clearing House Association

B: Nondisclosure of Associated Child and Household Affiliates

C: Non-IV-D Administrative Case Handling Activities

D: One of my favorite snacks! I love to add melted cheese, jalapenos, sometimes meat sauce, and ... oh, wait, did you say NACHA? Um, never mind.

ANSWER #59



OCSS, Glossary of Common Child Support Terms, published May 15, 2023

The resource defines a list of acronyms and other terms used by child support workers. Communication among caseworkers nationwide is a major key to successfully processing cases and collecting payments for child support. The glossary is intended to be a reference tool to those who are new to child support. It will serve to break down the barriers of communication with other professional child support workers. The glossary is also a useful tool for custodial and noncustodial parents when communicating with the caseworker, and for the public at large who desire to understand child support better.

National Automated Clearing House Association (NACHA): the association that establishes the Electronic Funds Transfer and the child support Electronic Data Interchange formats, including the rules and procedures that govern use of the stored value cards.

<https://acf.gov/css/glossary>

QUESTION #60

When a IV-D agency enters into a cooperative agreement, the state must ensure all of the following EXCEPT:

- A: Specify the financial arrangements including budget estimates, covered expenditures, methods of determining costs, procedures for billing the IV-D agency, and any relevant Federal and State reimbursement requirements and limitations.
- B: Specify the kind of records that must be maintained and the appropriate Federal, State and local reporting and safeguarding requirements.
- C: Specify the specific amount of time to be spent on each task, using estimates where certain timeframes cannot be determined but using exact timeframes when these can be properly calculated.
- D: Specify the fact that when I looked up my family tree, I found three dogs using it.

NOT A
VALID
ANSWER!



ANSWER #60

C

Code of Federal Regulations, § 303.107, Requirements for cooperative arrangements

The State must ensure that all cooperative arrangements:

- (a) Contain a clear description of the specific duties, functions and responsibilities of each party;
- (b) Specify clear and definite standards of performance which meet Federal requirements;
- (c) Specify that the parties will comply with title IV-D of the Act, implementing Federal regulations and any other applicable Federal regulations and requirements;
- (d) Specify the financial arrangements including budget estimates, covered expenditures, methods of determining costs, procedures for billing the IV-D agency, and any relevant Federal and State reimbursement requirements and limitations;
- (e) Specify the kind of records that must be maintained and the appropriate Federal, State and local reporting and safeguarding requirements; and
- (f) Specify the dates on which the arrangement begins and ends, any conditions for revision or renewal, and the circumstances under which the arrangement may be terminated.

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-B/chapter-III/part-303>

QUESTION #61

In its Annual State Self-Assessment Review and Report, there are two optional program areas of review that a state IV-D agency may include. Which of the following is NOT one of these optional areas?

A: Program reports, used to show a summary and/or detailed information to provide results of IV-D activities.

B: Program direction, for the purpose of analyzing the relationships between case results relating to program compliance areas.

C: Program service enhancements, describing initiatives put into practice that improved program performance and customer service.

D: I couldn't think of a good joke for this one. Anyone???



ANSWER #61

A

Code of Federal Regulations, § 308.3, Optional program areas of review

(a) **Program direction.** A State may include a program direction review in its self-assessment for the purpose of analyzing the relationships between case results relating to program compliance areas, and performance and program outcome indicators. This review is an opportunity for States to demonstrate how they are trying to manage their resources to achieve the best performance possible.

(b) **Program service enhancement.** A State may include a program service enhancement report in its self-assessment that describes initiatives put into practice that improved program performance and customer service. This is an opportunity for States to promote their programs and innovative practices.

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-B/chapter-III/part-308/section-308.3>

QUESTION #62

The total number of paternities established or acknowledged nationwide dropped in 2023 from 2022. How many fewer paternities were established in 2023?

A: 9,358

B: 289

C: 25,076

D: Speaking of paternities, I had to take a paternity test recently. I got an F.



ANSWER #62

B

OCSS Preliminary Report, FY 2023, Table P-71, Total Number of Paternities Established or Acknowledged for Five Consecutive Fiscal Years, p. 77

2023 = 1,275,368
2022 = 1,275,657
2021 = 1,472,708
2020 = 1,223,655
2019 = 1,401,272

QUESTION #63

How many states are currently receiving New Hire employment information on all independent contractors?

A: 7

B: 17

C: 27

D: How do you save a drowning independent contractor?
You take your foot off his head!



ANSWER #63

B

NCCSD, Independent Contractors, June 2024

Reporting Independent Contractors to Child Support Agencies:

Mandatory on all businesses: CA, CO, CT, FL, IA, IL, MA, ME, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OR, TX, VA, WV.

Limited to government agencies: GU, MI, MN.

https://www.nccsd.net/nccsd_uploads/2024/07/2024-06-20-ic-reporting-fact-sheet.pdf

QUESTION #64

A couple of years ago NCCSD created a document for Model Legislation on which of the following topics?

A: Full Child Support Pass-Through on TANF Cases

B: DRA Distribution for Tax Refund Offsets

C: Independent Contractor Reporting

D: Speaking of “Model” legislation, do you hear about the model’s house that had a hole in the bathroom wall?
The police are looking into it.



ANSWER #64

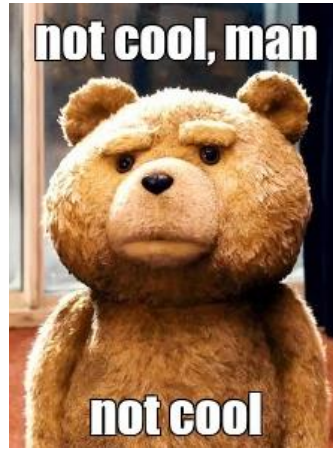
C

NCCSD, Model Legislation on Independent Contractor Reporting, NCCSD Employer Collaboration Committee Document, approved May 5, 2023

This model act is designed to build on the success of federal and state laws requiring reporting of all newly hired employees and withholding of income pursuant to income withholding orders. Although income withholding orders can be issued to any payer of income, new hire reporting requirements in most states are limited to traditional employees and do not apply to independent contractors. This act enhances new hire reporting requirements to include independent contractors. Reporting requirements under the act do not extend to individuals who are employees of the service recipient because those employees are already required to be reported under existing state law.

https://www.nccsd.net/nccsd_uploads/2024/05/2023-05-05-final-nccsd-model-independent-contractor-act.pdf

QUESTION #65



The 2024 Fatherhood Summit transformative event brought together which of the following?

- A: Fathers and fatherhood practitioners and advocates.
- B: Federal, state, tribal, and local government leaders.
- C: Social services agency representatives, researchers, and representatives from institutions of higher learning.
- D: These all sound like really cool people (admittedly, I don't know that many cool people – for some reason, cool people don't like hanging out with me), so let's go with "All of the above."

ANSWER #65

D

National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse, 2024 Fatherhood Summit

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), and the Office of Family Assistance (OFA) welcomed participants, presenters, moderators, and exhibitors to Atlanta, Georgia, for this year's National Fatherhood Summit, held August 13-15, 2024, at the Omni Atlanta at Centennial Park. This transformative event brought together fathers; fatherhood practitioners and advocates; federal, state, and local government leaders; tribal representatives; social services agency representatives; researchers; and representatives from institutions of higher learning from across the nation to share knowledge, best practices, and innovative strategies for engaging and supporting dads.

<https://www.fatherhood.gov/events/2024-fatherhood-summit>

QUESTION #66

What is the name of the OCSS storybook which describes services the child support program provides and the importance of both parents working with the CS program?

A: Let's Work Together

B: Child Support and You!

C: Welcome to the Child Support Program

D: You Think Your Parents Were Tough?!? I could tell my parents hated me. My bath toys were a toaster and a radio.



ANSWER #66



OCSS; Moms, Dads, and the Child Support Program, Let's Work Together, current as of June 15, 2023

The storybook theme is *Let's Work Together* and it emphasizes the importance of both parents working with the child support program. The storybook describes services the child support program provides plus other services we offer, like referrals to employment programs, health care services, parenting programs, family violence centers, and other social service agencies. Our Parents page has more information for parents. That's where you'll find resources to understand child support and our Glossary of commonly used child support terms. For information about your specific case or to open a child support case contact your local child support agency.

<https://acf.gov/css/outreach-material/moms-dads-and-child-support-program> AND
https://acf.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/2013_06_12_storybook_lets_work_together.pdf

QUESTION #67

All state plans must ensure that every person who has access to or control over funds collected under the child support enforcement program is covered by a bond. What is this bond for?

A: To prevent against loss resulting from employee dishonesty.

B: To protect intellectual property.

C: Making customers feel safe with employees in the office.

D: To prevent a scenario like mine, where my uncle's dying wish was to have me sit on his lap. He was in the electric chair.



ANSWER #67

A

Code of Federal Regulations, § 302.19, Bonding of Employees

The State plan shall provide that the following requirements and criteria to bond employees are in effect:

(a) *IV-D responsibility.* The IV-D agency will insure that every person, who has access to or control over funds collected under the child support enforcement program, is covered by a bond against loss resulting from employee dishonesty.

QUESTION #68

Every single new incoming interstate CS case must contain at least two specific intergovernmental forms. Which of the following is NOT one of these mandatory forms?

A: Child Support Agency Confidential Information form

B: Personal Information Form For UIFSA § 311

C: Child Support Enforcement Transmittal #1 – Initial Request

D: Heard during an interstate CS proceeding in court:
Judge: “I’ve decided to give your ex \$3,000 in child support.” Me: “Thank you, your honor. I’ll also try to give her something myself.”



ANSWER #68

B

OCSS, Intergovernmental Child Support Enforcement Forms, OMB 0970-0085, current as of December 20, 2023

States are required to use the federally approved standard intergovernmental forms in intergovernmental actions. The OCSS intergovernmental forms matrix (PDF) specifies which forms to use according to the specific action requested in the case. States need to use the English forms for transmitting information. We have four Spanish forms available for reference. These are the most commonly used forms for customers. (For processing international cases under the Hague Convention, please see alternative forms on the OCSS Hague Convention forms webpage. For processing cases with Foreign Reciprocating Countries that are not Hague countries, see the appropriate Caseworker Guide on the International webpage.)

<https://acf.gov/css/form/intergovernmental-child-support-enforcement-forms>

QUESTION #69

Per a recent study, what percentage of fathers owing child support AND having employment difficulties have been incarcerated, either before or after the children were born?

A: just over one in four

B: just under one half

C: nearly two-thirds

D: One of these fathers was my therapist. I told him I thought that everyone hated me. He told me I was being ridiculous – everyone hasn't met me yet.



ANSWER #69

C

Institute for Research on Poverty; Incarceration, Child Support, and Family Relationships. 2022 – 2024

Characteristics of Noncustodial Parents and their Children: All States Table 1 shows characteristics of the fathers and their children in our sample from the full set of states. Using the main treatment of incarceration history focused on pre- and post-birth periods of imprisonment, we see that over one-third (34%) of the sample had never been incarcerated, 9% had experienced incarceration before their children were born, and 56% after their children were born. Thus, nearly two-thirds of this sample of fathers owing child support and having employment difficulties has been incarcerated.

<https://www.irp.wisc.edu/wp/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/CSRA-2022-2024-T11-05192024.pdf>

QUESTION #70

Other than income withholding, what method of collection received the most child support money nationwide in 2023?

A: Offset of federal and state tax refunds.

B: AEI and all other administrative sources.

C: Other states, tribes, or countries.

D: Speaking of spending money, I'm aggressively planning for my retirement, and by that I mean I'm playing the lottery 3-5 times per week.



ANSWER #70

B

OCSS Preliminary Report, FY 2023, Table P-29, Total Collections Received by Method of Collection, p. 35

Offset of Federal Tax Refund = \$1,582,083,416

Offset of State Tax Refunds = \$259,957,393

Offset of Unemployment Compensation Payments = \$277,472,246

AEI and Other Sources = \$5,764,210,390

Income Withholding = \$21,860,204,865

Other States or Tribes = \$1,367,606,374

Other Countries = \$4,804,828

Total Collections Received = \$31,116,339,512

https://www.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ocse/fy_2023_preliminary_report.pdf

QUESTION #71

Regarding the child support program, what does NOFO stand for?

- A: National Office of Financial Oversight
- B: New Options for Federal Organizations
- C: Notice Of Funding Opportunity
- D: Never Optimistic for Funny Options
(Um, I'm sure they're not referring to my choice D answers!)



ANSWER #71

C

OCSS, Apply and Manage Grants, current as of November 15, 2024

This page provides useful resources when applying for, managing, and closing out a grant. When drafting a grant application, the best source of information is the grant's notice of funding opportunity (NOFO). The NOFO will provide specific details about eligibility, disqualification factors, required federal forms, content and formatting requirements, submission instructions, review criteria, and more.

<https://acf.gov/css/grants/apply-and-manage>

QUESTION #72

Which of these websites offers one-stop access to all online U.S. Federal Government resources, everything from researching at the Library of Congress to tracking a NASA mission. It also enables users to conduct important business online — such as applying for student loans, tracking Social Security benefits, comparing Medicare options, child support enforcement, and even administering government grants and contracts, plus it contains a quick gateway to state and local government websites.



A: firstgov.gov

C: topgov.gov

B: newgov.gov

D: [isn'tthis%\\$#@&!sessionoveryet.com](http://isn'tthis%$#@&!sessionoveryet.com)

ANSWER #72

A

ERICSA website, Resources, FirstGov, now called usa.gov

How to get help collecting child support: find out how to get, change, or enforce a child support order, regardless of where the parent lives. A child support order legally requires a parent to help pay to raise a child. Your state or tribe can help you get, change, or enforce one, regardless of where the parent lives.

<https://ericsa.org/useful-links/>

AND

<https://www.usa.gov/child-support>

Thank you for your participation!



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