

Department:	District Attorney	Program Contact:	Glen Banfield
Program Offer Type:	Existing Operating Program	Program Offer Stage:	As Adopted
Related Programs:			
Program Characteristics:			

Executive Summary

The Multnomah County District Attorney's Support Enforcement Division (SED) establishes, modifies and enforces paternity, child support and medical support orders for the families of Multnomah County as part of the Oregon Child Support Program (OCSP) by working with both parents to provide the financial and emotional and culturally specific support their children need to grow and thrive. OCSP delegates the authority of non-public assistance cases to county district attorney offices. These child support payments are essential for promoting equitable outcomes and helping struggling members of the community provide for their children and families.

Program Summary

The Child Support Enforcement (CSE) Program, operated by the Support Enforcement Division (SED), was enacted in 1975 as a federal-state-local partnership. The federal government reimburses each state 66% of all allowable expenditures on CSE activities, including staffing costs. The federal government's funding is open-ended in that it pays its percentage of expenditures by matching the amounts spent by state and local governments with no upper limit or ceiling.

The SED carried an average caseload of approximately 7,000 cases and collected approximately \$31 million in FY 2021. It is expected that collections in FY 2022 and FY2023 will decrease as household supports available during COVID are no longer available. Every dollar collected (less a \$25 annual fee after \$500 collected) is sent directly to custodial parents for the benefit of the children in the community, providing a critical safety net for families.

SED operates in two locations, the central courthouse in downtown Portland and the East County Courthouse. Implemented in 2019, a modernized statewide child support computer conversion provides SED with a more automated system to establish, modify and enforce support orders which result in payments benefiting over 10,000 children in the community. While seeking accountability from parents ordered to pay support, SED also works to reduce barriers for those who are unable to meet their obligations by working with the courts to refer parents for job placement, addiction evaluations and appropriate mental health services. This support is crucial to overcome system barriers and move towards more equitable outcomes for members of the community.

SED works with all 50 states, local tribes, and US territories to cooperatively provide child support services. In addition, OCSP and CSE have reciprocity agreements with over 30 foreign nations.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY21 Actual	FY22 Budgeted	FY22 Estimate	FY23 Offer
Output	Average number of families (cases) assisted each month	7,281	7,584	6,708	7,000
Outcome	Dollars of child support collected (in millions)	\$31	\$32	\$28	\$30

Performance Measures Descriptions

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Per ORS 25.080, the District Attorney's Office provides support services by application to 1) a child support recipient who lives in Multnomah County 2) a child support recipient who lives out of state but the obligating party lives in Multnomah County or 3) both the obligating party and support order are in Multnomah County. Cases may remain in the District Attorney caseload for the duration of the support order and until all arrears are paid in full. ORS 416.415 (paternity); ORS 416.425, (modifying support orders); ORS 416.429, (establish and enforce arrearages)

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2022	2022	2023	2023
Personnel	\$835,819	\$2,408,244	\$845,466	\$2,528,301
Contractual Services	\$3,400	\$6,600	\$10,000	\$10,000
Materials & Supplies	\$19,006	\$36,894	\$29,034	\$29,479
Internal Services	\$170,182	\$890,512	\$183,341	\$920,118
Total GF/non-GF	\$1,028,407	\$3,342,250	\$1,067,841	\$3,487,898
Program Total:	\$4,370,657		\$4,555,739	
Program FTE	4.98	20.62	4.49	21.11

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$3,302,250	\$0	\$3,454,395
Beginning Working Capital	\$0	\$40,000	\$0	\$33,503
Total Revenue	\$0	\$3,342,250	\$0	\$3,487,898

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$547,882 in indirect revenues.

\$195,576 State General Fund

\$443,429 Federal Incentives

\$33,503 Program Fees (collected in the prior fiscal year and brought forward as Beginning Working Capital)

\$2,815,390 Federal Reimbursement

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2022: 15104 Child Support Enforcement

An increase in incentive based revenue from the Oregon Child Support Program allows for a shift of ~0.50 FTE from General Fund to Other Funds.