



Program #15104 - Child Support Enforcement FY 2024 Department Requested

Department: District Attorney **Program Contact:** Glen Banfield
Program Offer Type: Existing **Program Offer Stage:** Department Requested
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics: In Target

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 Description

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	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer
Output	Average number of families (cases) assisted each month	6,249	7,584	5,922	5,900
Outcome	Dollars of child support collected (in millions)	\$28	\$32	\$26.5	\$27

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	Department Requested General Fund	Department Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2023	2023	2024	2024
Personnel	\$845,466	\$2,361,431	\$809,194	\$2,467,762
Contractual Services	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0	\$7,700
Materials & Supplies	\$29,034	\$29,479	\$20,410	\$52,990
Internal Services	\$183,341	\$920,118	\$196,427	\$969,519
Total GF/non-GF	\$1,067,841	\$3,321,028	\$1,026,031	\$3,497,971
Program Total:	\$4,388,869		\$4,524,002	
Program FTE	4.49	20.11	4.44	19.16

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$3,454,395	\$0	\$3,461,690
Beginning Working Capital	\$0	\$33,503	\$0	\$36,281
Total Revenue	\$0	\$3,487,898	\$0	\$3,497,971

Explanation of Revenues

This program generates \$609,292 in indirect revenues.

\$203,194 Direct State General Fund

\$451,702 Federal Through State Incentives

\$36,281 Program Fees (collected in the prior fiscal year and brought forward as Beginning Working Capital)

\$2,806,794 Federal Through State Reimbursement

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2023: 15104 Child Support Enforcement

A decrease in 2.00 FTE from program: 1.00 FTE vacant support enforcement agent position will not be filled as a result of a retirement; 1.00 FTE in the System Administrator position moved from PO 15104 (Support Enforcement) to 15002 (IT) due to shift in role. The shift from SED to IT results in a shift from Other Funds to General Funds.