

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

CHILDREN'S RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

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ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
Children's Research and Technical Assistance

Authorizing Legislation

	FY 2014 Amount Authorized	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 Amount Authorized	FY 2015 Budget Request
1. Training and Technical Assistance: Section 452(j) of the Social Security Act	The amount authorized and appropriated is equal to the greater of one percent of the total amount paid to the federal government for its share of child support collections for the preceding year or the amount appropriated for this activity for FY 2002.	\$11,431,000	The amount authorized and appropriated is equal to the greater of one percent of the total amount paid to the federal government for its share of child support collections for the preceding year or the amount appropriated for this activity for FY 2002.	\$12,318,000
2. Federal Parent Locator Service: Section 453(o) of the Social Security Act	The amount authorized and appropriated is equal to the greater of two percent of the total amount paid to the federal government for its share of child support collections for the preceding year or the amount appropriated for this activity for FY 2002.	\$22,861,000	The amount authorized and appropriated is equal to the greater of two percent of the total amount paid to the federal government for its share of child support collections for the preceding year or the amount appropriated for this activity for FY 2002.	\$24,635,000
3. Welfare Research: Section 413(h) of the Social Security Act	15,000,000	\$13,920,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000
Total request level		\$48,212,000		\$51,953,000

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Appropriations History Table

<u>Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
2005	55,398,000
2006	55,398,000
2007	57,953,000
2008	57,953,000
2009	57,953,000
2010	57,953,000
2011	57,953,000
2012	51,953,000
2013	49,303,000
2014	48,212,000
2015	51,953,000

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Amounts Available for Obligation

<u>Budgetary Resources</u>	FY 2013 <u>Actual</u>	FY 2014 <u>Enacted</u>	FY 2015 <u>President's Budget</u>
Pre-Appropriated, B.A.	\$51,953,000	\$51,953,000	\$51,953,000
Sequestration	-2,650,000	-3,741,000	0
Subtotal, Net Budget Authority	\$49,303,000	\$48,212,000	\$51,953,000
Offsetting Collections from Federal Funds	10,519,000	12,728,000	12,728,000
Offsetting Collections from Non-Federal Funds	12,174,000	17,242,000	17,242,000
Sequestration of Offsetting Collections	-546,000	-1,081,000	0
Restored Sequestration of Offsetting Collections	0	546,000	1,081,000
Unobligated balance, lapsing	-7,000	0	0
Unobligated balance, start of year	3,547,000	4,699,000	0
Recoveries of prior year obligations	0	1,000,000	1,000,000
Recoveries, Unobligated Balance, start of year	2,990,000	373,000	0
Recoveries, Unobligated Balance, end of year	-373,000	0	0
Unobligated balance, end of year	-4,699,000	0	0
Total Obligations	\$72,908,000	\$83,718,000	\$84,004,000

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Budget Authority by Activity

<u>Activity</u>	FY 2013 <u>Enacted</u>	FY 2014 <u>Enacted</u>	FY 2015 <u>President's Budget</u>
Child Support Training and Technical Assistance	\$11,689,000	\$11,431,000	\$12,318,000
Federal Parent Locator Service	23,379,000	22,861,000	24,635,000
Welfare Research	14,235,000	13,920,000	15,000,000
Total, Budget Authority	\$49,303,000	\$48,212,000	\$51,953,000

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Summary of Changes

FY 2014 Current Law	
Total estimated budget authority	\$48,212,000
(Obligations)	(\$83,718,000)
FY 2015 Estimate	
Total estimated budget authority	\$51,953,000
(Obligations)	(\$84,004,000)
Net change	+\$3,741,000

<u>Description of Changes</u>	<u>FY 2014 Current Law</u>	<u>Change from Base</u>
<u>Increases:</u>		
A. <u>Built-in:</u>		
1) Federal Parent Locator Service: Technical Baseline Change.	\$22,861,000	+\$1,774,000
2) Welfare Research: Technical Baseline Change.	\$13,920,000	+\$1,080,000
3) Child Support Training and Technical Assistance: Technical Baseline Change.	\$11,431,000	+\$887,000
Subtotal, Built-in Increases		+\$3,741,000
Total, Increases		+\$3,741,000
Net Change		+\$3,741,000

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
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Justification

Funding Level	FY 2013 Enacted	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 President's Budget	Change From FY 2014 Enacted
Total, Budget Authority	\$49,303,000	\$48,212,000	\$51,953,000	+\$3,741,000
Total, Obligations	\$72,908,000	\$83,718,000	\$84,004,000	+\$285,000

Authorizing Legislation – Sections 413(h), 452(j), and 453(o) of the Social Security Act

2015 Authorization Training and Technical Assistance and Federal Parent Locator Service authorized indefinitely based on a formula, and Welfare Research pending Congressional action

Allocation Method Direct Federal/Contract

General Statement

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-193) and the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-171) authorized and appropriated funds for welfare research, training and technical assistance to support the dissemination of information, technical assistance to the states on child support enforcement activities, and the operation of the Federal Parent Locator Service (which assists state child support agencies in locating non-custodial parents and other federal and state agencies in reducing improper payments).

Program Description and Accomplishments – The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) included two provisions which target funding to strengthen the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement’s (OCSE) capacity to increase the effectiveness of the child support program.

The first provision, pertaining to an amount equivalent to the greater of either one percent of the federal share of child support collections in the prior year or the amount appropriated for this activity in FY 2002, is directed to cover the Department's costs in providing technical assistance to states (including technical assistance related to state automated systems), training of state and federal staff, staffing studies, information dissemination and related activities; and to support research, demonstration, and special projects of regional or national significance relating to the operation of state child support programs. These activities are key to successful state outcomes in promoting family self-sufficiency and attaining the anticipated benefits of the Title IV-D statute. Amounts under this provision are available until expended.

The second provision, pertaining to an amount equal to the greater of either two percent of the federal share of child support collections in the prior year or the amount appropriated for this activity in FY 2002, is directed to cover the Department's costs in operating the Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS) to the extent that these costs are not recovered through fees. Under PRWORA, the mission and scope of the FPLS was significantly expanded to add two components--the Federal Child Support Case Registry, a database of child support cases, participants, and orders, and the National Directory of New Hires, a database of employment information.

State and local child support enforcement agencies use FPLS data to locate non-custodial parents, alleged fathers, and custodial parties for the establishment of paternity and child support obligations, as well as to assist in the enforcement and modification of orders for child support, custody and visitation. States rely on the FPLS to facilitate standardized and centralized communication and data exchanges with employers, multistate financial institutions, insurance companies and other federal and state agencies. FPLS data also are used by state and federal agencies to reduce erroneous payments and overall program costs in public assistance and benefit programs. The FPLS helped states collect over \$27.7 billion in child support in FY 2012 and produced direct collections of \$3.89 billion. This investment continues to align with the Federal CIO goals of Maximizing Return on Investment in IT and Innovating for the American People. The FPLS is crucial to helping OCSE fulfill its mission in assisting states to secure the financial support upon which millions of our nation's children depend, and has contributed to an increase in the overall effectiveness and performance of the child support program and other federal and state programs. Amounts under this provision are available until expended.

PRWORA also included a provision supporting welfare research. Welfare research funds have supported a portfolio of rigorous, influential research and evaluation on the operation of the TANF program. Examples include the Evaluation of Enhanced Services for the Hard to Employ, the Employment, Retention and Advancement Evaluation, the Rural Welfare-to-Work Evaluation, as well as studies of Tribal TANF, time limits, diversion practices, and services for TANF recipients with disabilities.

Budget Request – The FY 2015 request for Children's Research and Technical Assistance is \$51,953,000, the same as FY 2014 current law prior to sequestration. This request will fund child support training and technical assistance efforts, the operation of the FPLS, and welfare research. This request includes a continuation of the \$15 million welfare research funding.

Both the Administration and the Congress have an interest in learning whether Federal policies and programs are succeeding or failing – for example, whether participants are getting and retaining jobs, and whether those who find jobs are earning good wages. Access to data on employment outcomes is critical to effectively analyzing policy and program results, and the current methods for gathering these data (surveys and separate agreements with states) are inefficient, time consuming, and increasingly cost prohibitive. The Budget proposes to narrowly expand access to the National Directory of New Hires Database to assess the effectiveness of federal policies and programs in achieving positive labor market outcomes and to provide related demographic or economic statistics. This proposal would allow certain federal agencies a more reliable and affordable way to obtain data essential for research, evaluation, and statistical purposes while maintaining necessary mandated security, privacy, and confidentiality standards.

Resource and Program Data
Child Support Training and Technical Assistance

Data Category	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 President's Budget
<u>Resource Data:</u>			
Service Grants			
Formula			
Competitive	\$498,215	\$700,000	\$500,000
Research/Evaluation		630,000	
Demonstration/Development			
Training/Technical Assistance	2,096,751	3,526,678	3,057,396
Program Support	8,869,582	10,279,802	9,260,149
Total, Resources	\$11,464,548	\$15,136,480	\$12,817,545
<u>Program Data:</u>			
Number of Grants	5	13	5
New Starts			
#	0	8	0
\$	\$0	\$200,000	\$0
Continuations			
#	5	5	5
\$	\$498,215	\$500,000	\$500,000
Contracts			
#	8	18	13
\$	\$4,342,219	\$6,610,418	\$5,031,890
Interagency Agreements			
#	52	54	50
\$	\$1,120,249	\$1,718,019	\$1,056,045

Notes:

1. The numbers reflect total obligations which include obligations made from prior year unobligated balances.
2. Program Support includes funding for information technology, salaries/benefits, and associated overhead costs.

Resource and Program Data
Federal Parent Locator Service

Data Category	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 President's Budget
<u>Resource Data:</u>			
Service Grants			
Formula			
Competitive			
Research/Evaluation			
Demonstration/Development			
Training/Technical Assistance			
Program Support	\$47,215,366	\$54,661,860	\$56,186,187
Total, Resources	\$47,215,366	\$54,661,860	\$56,186,187
<u>Program Data:</u>			
Number of Grants	0	0	0
New Starts			
#	0	0	0
\$	\$0	\$0	\$0
Continuations			
#	0	0	0
\$	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contracts			
#	12	18	22
\$	\$33,381,407	\$39,989,911	\$41,339,655
Interagency Agreements			
#	58	61	63
\$	\$7,497,112	\$8,230,188	\$8,333,500

Notes:

1. Program Support includes the full costs of operating the FPLS including information systems, salaries/benefits, and associated overhead costs.
2. The numbers reflect total obligations which include obligations made from prior year unobligated balances, fees from the states to pay costs associated with offset notice preparation, and fees from state and federal agencies to pay costs associated with Federal Parent locator Services.

Resource and Program Data
Welfare Research

Data Category	FY 2013 Actual	FY 2014 Enacted	FY 2015 President's Budget
<u>Resource Data:</u>			
Service Grants			
Formula			
Competitive			
Research/Evaluation	\$13,336,531	\$13,008,457	\$14,087,989
Demonstration/Development			
Training/Technical Assistance			
Program Support	891,789	911,543	912,011
Total, Resources	\$14,228,320	\$13,920,000	\$15,000,000
<u>Program Data:</u>			
Number of Grants	2	4	4
New Starts			
#	1	2	2
\$	\$100,000	\$700,000	\$700,000
Continuations			
#	1	2	2
\$	\$750,000	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000
Contracts			
#	17	16	16
\$	\$12,170,410	\$10,782,785	\$11,862,317
Interagency Agreements			
#	10	10	10
\$	\$1,179,183	\$1,308,000	\$1,308,000

Notes:

1. Program Support includes funding for Federal Register notices, administrative support, security clearances, information technology, and rent/overhead.