

Child Support Enforcement and Child Support Collections—CBO’s January 2019 Baseline

The Child Support Enforcement (CSE) program is a joint federal, state, and local effort to secure financial support from noncustodial parents. People who receive benefits from certain other federal assistance programs automatically receive the CSE program’s services; others may apply for them. The federal government makes incentive payments to states to operate CSE programs efficiently, and it reimburses states for 66 percent of their programs’ operating expenses. There is no limit on federal spending to defray those state expenditures. The federal government also makes grants to states to support services for children and families under the program.

States also collect child support payments on behalf of families that receive cash assistance through the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program. The receipts are used to reimburse those states and to return funds to the federal government for TANF payments to families.

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Outlays in Millions of Dollars, by Fiscal Year

January 28, 2019

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Child Support Enforcement											
Child Support Administration	3,488	3,509	3,526	3,541	3,553	3,558	3,574	3,590	3,605	3,620	3,630
Incentive Payments	597	610	625	640	656	672	689	705	722	740	750
Payments to Territories; Repatriation	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
Total	4,105	4,139	4,170	4,201	4,230	4,250	4,283	4,315	4,347	4,380	4,400
Child Support Collections											
TANF Collections Retained by Federal Government	-612	-605	-597	-589	-582	-574	-565	-557	-549	-540	-535

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding. TANF = Temporary Assistance to Needy Families