



## **Child Support Enforcement and Child Support Collections**

The Child Support Enforcement (CSE) program is a joint effort between federal, state, and local governments to secure financial support for children 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 reimburses states, U.S. territories, and Indian tribes for some or all of their programs' administrative expenses.

Under the program, the federal government also provides:

- Incentive payments to states and territories to operate their CSE programs efficiently,
- Grants to states and territories to help increase noncustodial parents' access to their children, and
- Temporary financial assistance to U.S. citizens and their dependents who return to the United States as a result of a crisis abroad.

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

**Child Support Enforcement and Child Support Collections**

	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2027- 2031	2027- 2036
<b>BUDGET INFORMATION</b>													
Millions of dollars, by fiscal year													
<b>Estimated Outlays for Components of the Child Support Enforcement Program</b>													
Child Support Administration <sup>a</sup>	4,386	4,429	4,473	4,516	4,561	4,605	4,650	4,695	4,741	4,787	4,834	22,584	46,291
Incentive Payments	612	650	676	700	718	736	753	770	787	805	823	3,480	7,418
Access and Visitation Grants	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	50	100
Repatriation Assistance	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	10
Sequestration <sup>b</sup>	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	0	0	0	0	-5	-6
Total Outlays	5,008	5,089	5,159	5,226	5,289	5,351	5,413	5,476	5,539	5,603	5,668	26,114	53,813
<b>Child Support Collections<sup>c</sup></b>													
TANF Collections Retained by the Federal Government	-470	-456	-442	-428	-414	-400	-387	-373	-360	-345	-340	-2,140	-3,945

TANF = Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.

- a. Amounts include federal payments to states, U.S. territories, and Indian tribes.
- b. The Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024, extended sequestration for mandatory spending through fiscal year 2032.
- c. Collections are recorded in the federal budget as negative outlays.