



**Department of Human Services
Online Directives Information System**

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POL1285

**Revised:
Next Review:**

**08/08/2019
08/08/2021**

SUBJECT: Establishment and Enforcement of Child Support

POLICY

It is the policy of the Department of Human Services Division of Child Support Services (DCSS) to establish paternity, to establish child support orders, to establish medical support orders and to enforce delinquent child support orders for referred and located noncustodial parents in accordance with federal regulations and state law and in accordance with federally mandated standards and time frames.

A. Authority

[O.C.G.A. §19-6-1 et seq](#)

[O.C.G.A. §19-7-1 et seq](#)

[O.C.G.A. §19-11-1 et seq](#)

[O.C.G.A. §19-11-100 et seq](#)

[O.C.G.A. §48-7-160](#)

[O.C.G.A. §50-27-50](#)

[DHS Rules at 290-7-1](#)

B. References

Title IV-D of the Social Security Act

Code of Federal Regulations [45 CFR Parts 300](#) through 307

C. Applicability

All child support offices in Georgia receiving Title IV-D funds including all private vendors contracted with the Department to provide child support services, Georgia employers, and other public and private entities required by state law to cooperate with the Department.

D. Definitions

The child support glossary of terms can be found at <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/child-support-glossary>.

Nonparent – a person other than the biological/legal parent or grandparent with legal or physical custody

Private Child Support Collector – a private company/entity that collects child support payments on behalf of a custodial parent that is not affiliated with DCSS

Cooperative Agreement – an agreement reflecting a relationship between a government agency and another government agency/recipient

Proration – to divide, distribute, and/or calculate proportionately.

Repay Support Ordered Amount (SOA) – a specific dollar amount designated to repay a child support arrears.

Expedited Processes – administrative and judicial procedures required under the Social Security Act.

E. Responsibilities

The DCSS is responsible for issuing and updating program manuals to implement this policy. The programmatic manual for the establishment and enforcement of paternity and child support orders is indexed at **MAN1285**.

F. History

This directive was formerly indexed as “POL3365.”

G. Evaluation

The outcomes of this directive are evaluated by the DCSS Performance Management Section. The Performance Management Section conducts planned annual intensive reviews of all child support offices to determine if they are in compliance with federally mandated standards and time frames. In addition, performance standards for locating noncustodial parents, establishing and enforcing support orders, and establishing paternity for children born out of wedlock are also incorporated into the individual Performance Management Forms of the DCSS staff performing establishment and enforcement functions. Failure to meet the standards may result in loss of federal funding.