



STATE OF MICHIGAN

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING

ELIZABETH HERTEL
DIRECTOR

IV-D MEMORANDUM 2024-017

TO: All IV-D Staff*

FROM: Erin P. Frisch, Director
Office of Child Support (OCS)

DATE: September 27, 2024

UPDATE(S):

☐ Manual

☐ Form(s)

SUBJECT: Implementation of the End of the Child Support Cooperation Requirement for Food Assistance Program (FAP) Recipients

ACTION DUE: None

POLICY EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2024

PURPOSE:

The policy to end the requirement for Food Assistance Program (FAP) recipients to cooperate with the child support program will be effective on October 1, 2024. On September 25, 2024, the legislature approved the administrative rule change to begin October 1. OCS introduced this policy in IV-D Memorandum 2024-016.¹

The system and process changes related to the end of the cooperation requirement for FAP and Child Development and Care (CDC)² recipients as discussed in IV-D Memorandum 2024-016 will be implemented on October 7, 2024 with the Child Support 24.3.1 Release.

This IV-D Memorandum discusses the availability of the forms and publications that were announced in IV-D Memorandum 2024-016. It also discusses the expected actions of IV-D staff between October 1 and October 7.

¹ Ref: [IV-D Memorandum 2024-016, Anticipated End of the Child Support Cooperation Requirement for Food Assistance Program \(FAP\) Recipients and Introduction of New Process for FAP-Only and/or Child Development and Care \(CDC\)-Only Cases.](#)

² For the purposes of this IV-D Memorandum, "Child Development and Care" refers to childcare subsidy programs funded under the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF). The end of the child support cooperation requirement for CDC was effective on February 25, 2024.

DISCUSSION:

A. Policy Implementation and System/Process Implementation

Effective October 1, 2024, individuals will no longer be required to cooperate with the child support program as a condition of FAP eligibility. Although IV-D letters and other printed materials will indicate cooperation is required,³ beginning October 1, IV-D staff are asked to refrain from telling recipients that reduced FAP benefits is a possible outcome of noncooperation. Recipients who receive Family Independence Program (FIP) assistance and/or Medicaid for children in their care are still required to cooperate.

On or about October 1, Bridges will discontinue sanctions on all assistance cases with reduced FAP benefits as a result of failure to cooperate with child support. This will benefit approximately 14,000 families across the state. Additionally, effective October 1, if MiCSES issues a noncooperation notice to Bridges for a family who receives FAP, those FAP benefits will not be reduced.

OCS will implement the system functionality to support this new policy in MiCSES on October 7, 2024. On that date, IV-D staff will begin using the processes and system functions introduced in IV-D Memorandum 2024-016.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) will continue to refer FAP recipients to the child support program and require OCS to offer those individuals IV-D child support services.

B. MiCSES-Generated Materials

The following updated materials will be available in MiCSES on October 7, 2024:

- *Notice of Eligibility – FAP/CDC Only* (OCS0020);
- *Application for IV-D Child Support Services (For Individuals Receiving FAP/CDC)* (DHS-1201A); and
- *Understanding Child Support – A Handbook for Parents* (OCSPAMP).⁴

Translations of these materials in Arabic and Spanish will be available on the [Policy, Forms and Publications](#) page of the MDHHS-OCS website on or about October 7, 2024. Updated Arabic and Spanish translations of the *Notice of Continuing Eligibility* (case without state-owed arrears) (OCS4636) will also be available on or about the same date.

³ IV-D letters generated by the Michigan Child Support Enforcement System (MiCSES) will be updated on October 7. Ref: Section C of this memorandum for information about printed materials.

⁴ The OCSPAMP is the MiCSES-generated version of the publication *Understanding Child Support: A Handbook for Parents* (DHS-Pub-748).

C. Publications

1. *Understanding Child Support: A Handbook for Parents* (DHS-Pub-748)

On or about October 7, 2024, electronic versions of the DHS-Pub-748 will be available on the MDHHS-OCS website in English, Arabic, and Spanish.⁵

Printed versions of this publication in English, Arabic, and Spanish will be available for order at a later date due to the additional time needed for development and printing. OCS will announce their availability in an email notification.

2. *A Quick Look at Child Support for Parents* (MDHHS-Pub-1207)

The electronic version of the MDHHS-Pub-1207 will be available on the MDHHS-OCS website on or about October 7, 2024.

Printed versions of this publication will be available for order at a later date due to the additional time needed for development and printing. OCS will announce its availability in an email notification.

D. Additional Information

MDHHS may do a press release announcing this policy change in the near future.

NECESSARY ACTION:

Retain this IV-D Memorandum until further notice.

REVIEW PARTICIPANTS:

None

CONTACT PERSON:

Chris Budny
OCS Policy Analyst
budnyc@michigan.gov

CC:

MDHHS Economic Stability Administration (ESA)

⁵ The publication numbers for the Arabic and Spanish versions are DHS-Pub-748-AR and DHS-Pub-748-SP.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

EPF/CAB

* Ref: the [Michigan IV-D Child Support Manual Introduction and Table of Contents](#) for a definition of IV-D staff.