

## Chapter 13: Tribal Enforcement

### Section 13.020: Processing and Distributing Tribal TANF Child Support Payments

This section describes how to appropriately apply tribal TANF child support payments to cases.

#### Contents

Laws	42 USC 612 Tribal TANF 42 USC 654 Cooperative child support agreements RCW 26.23.035 Distribution of support payments Chapter 26.25 RCW Cooperative child support services - Tribes WAC 388-14A-5000 - 5100 Allows DCS to distribute support money to a tribe with TANF program or cooperative agreement
Policy	Distribute child support money to an Indian tribe with a Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program or a state/tribal cooperative child support agreement.  Distribute child support payments to tribes by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).
Procedure	Process suspense payments once we have received the tribal TANF assignment.  Notify the custodial parent (CP) of the Division of Child Support (DCS) intent to distribute support payments to the tribe.  Use the algorithm to apply payments on tribal TANF cases.
Visual Aids	Tribal Relations Internet site
Automated Actions	
SEMS Screens	CF, SI, AV
Forms Used	09-875, 18-606, Child Support Referral - Tribe, TANF Assignment - Tribal
Hearing and Conference Board Rights	Refer all requests to the Regional Tribal Liaison or Tribal Claims Officer.
See Also	OCSE-AT-05-07 Tribal Child Support Enforcement Program Final Rule

#### Procedures

##### A. When can DCS distribute child support money to a tribe?

- Under federal and state law, the Division of Child Support (DCS) can distribute child support money to an Indian tribe with a:
  - a. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program,
  - b. Tribal IV-D program, or
  - c. State/tribal cooperative agreement.

**B. How does DCS send payments to a tribe?**

1. DCS distributes child support payments to tribes using Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).
2. The tribe can use the **Authorization for Receipt of Electronic Funds Transfer - Tribal Child Support Programs**, DSHS 18-606 to provide bank information to DCS for EFT payments.

**C. What if there is a payment in suspense on a tribal TANF case?**

1. Ensure DCS has received a copy of the tribal TANF assignment of support, or that an automatic assignment exists by operation of tribal law.
2. Verify that a state/tribal child support agreement exists.
  - a. If an agreement does **not** exist, send the **Letter of Intent to Distribute Support Money - Tribal**, DSHS 09-875, to the custodial parent (CP).
  - b. Send a copy of the DSHS 09-875 to the tribe.
3. Open a new tribal TANF case for each NCP and set the case financial (CF) screen. See Section 13.015.
4. Use the adjustment voucher (**AV**) to process payments in suspense.
5. Remove the special instructions (**SI**).

**D. How does DCS distribute support when there is a tribal TANF case?**

- When the Support Enforcement Management System (SEMS) or a Support Enforcement Officer (SEO) distributes payments between Washington State cases and tribal TANF cases, the normal algorithm applies.