

2015 Child Support Schedule Workgroup Minutes
Web Based Meeting of September 11th, 2015

Workgroup Members attending: Wally McClure, Dr. Robert Plotnick, Judge Richard Okrent, Tami Chavez, Kevin Callaghan, Coti Westby, Ami Abuan, Melora Sharts, Nathaniel Hildebrandt, Inga Laurent, Kala Jackson, Dave Brown, Merrie Gough, Representative Christine Kilduff

DCS Staff: Matthew Parascand, Janina Oestreich, Nancy Koptur

- I. WebEx etiquette reviewed—members agreed to use the “raise hands” feature to speak
- II. The Janina reviewed the 2011 recommendations that the group has agreed in consensus to support:
 - New Economic Table
 - Self-support reserve and federal poverty level
- III. The group began discussions about the unresolved issues
 - A. Formula:
 - All workgroup members agreed to no threshold.
 - All workgroup members agreed that the credit should not be applied if the self-support reserve is being applied to either party.
 - The formula will be applied as a deviation.
 - All agree that the credit should not be applied if the self-support reserve is being applied in either scenario.
 - **The following members voted to recommend the “Dr. Plotnick” residential credit formula:** Wally McClure, Dr. Robert Plotnick, Judge Richard Okrent, Tami Chavez, Coti Westby, Ami Abuan, Melora Sharts, Nathaniel Hildebrandt, Inga Laurent, Kala Jackson, Dave Brown, Merrie Gough
 - **Representative Christine Kilduff and Kevin Callaghan tentatively vote in support of the formula contingent on their further review.** Kevin and Representative Kilduff would both like to understand the mechanics of the formula a bit more before moving to full support.
 - There were no dissenting votes.
 - Representative Kilduff and Merrie Gough were clear that their support is contingent on the credit being a deviation
 - The group discussed how the Dr. Plotnick formula doesn’t utilize a multiplier or cross-credit methodology and how this differs from Oregon and Indiana formulas.
 - Dr. Plotnick will work with DCS staff to come up with some user friendly materials that simplify\clarify how the formula works.
 - The group then discussed how the credit would be applied: to the standard calculation or to the basic support obligation:

- The group had concerns that if the credit were applied to the standard calculation, then it would act to reduce the paying parent's contribution to medical, child care and other child-rearing expenses.
- **The group clarified that their intent is to apply the credit to reduce the basic support obligation only**

B. The group discussed how to include the amount of the credit in the worksheets:

- The group agreed that the amount shown on the worksheet should be in the "Additional Information Calculations" section of the worksheet (part VII)
- The group agreed that there should be a new line in part VII of the worksheet.
- Anyone could use either the table or calculator to determine the amount of the residential credit.
- This credit amount would then be shown in the new line in the worksheet..

C. How to address the Administrative Process?

- In the next few days [in advance of the final meeting] DCS will craft and propose statutory or rule language to the group that accomplishes the intent of the workgroup which is that:
 - A residential credit should not be applied by the Department at the beginning of the establishment process (Notice and Finding of Financial Responsibility).
 - After the Notice and Finding of Financial Responsibility (or Notice and Finding of Parental Responsibility) is served, either party may object and request a hearing and request that a residential schedule deviation be applied as part of the hearing process.
 - The parents may agree to the number of overnights and residential credit as part of the settlement or hearing process.
 - If the parents cannot agree, the ALJ may apply a residential credit based upon findings of fact at a hearing.

IV. Next meeting:

- Public forum – 9/19/15
- Please arrive at 8:40 to prepare for the meeting.