

2019 Child Support Schedule – Ideas for Workgroup Focus

Brainstorm Idea/Topic	Summary	Considerations
<p>What is income? (imputed, median, default)</p> <p>Imputation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When to impute? • To what amount? • Mean imputation based on education versus age <p>Spousal maintenance (ref. Kaplan)</p> <p>Clarify/add reason for unemployment (addiction, daycare, other barriers)</p>	<p>Thinking about how income is used and calculated in the formulation of a child support order.</p> <p>Imputation is a method used for calculating a child support order when actual income is unknown or less than what is considered full-time employment.</p> <p>Should maintenance be included when calculating income?</p> <p>See RCW 26.19.071 section 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *What’s considered countable income? What do other states and counties do?
<p>Greater than \$12,000 combined income</p>		

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<p>Residential Credit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deviation or adjustment • What should the calculation be? <p>Shared parenting 50/50</p> <p>Situation: 2 low income parents + shared schedule + TANF = inequitable order</p>	<p>Accounting for the time a child spends with the paying parent when determining the child support obligation.</p>	
<p>Self-Support Reserve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should it be adjusted? • Tied to self-support reserve or other? 	<p>Self-support reserve is 125% of the federal poverty guideline for one person. For 2018 it was \$1,265.</p>	

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Stricter TANF requirements		
Access to Justice <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dependency• Homelessness Quicker child support modifications available		
Less subjective discussion and more objective/predictable		

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<p>'Pass-through'</p>	<p>DCS passed through a specified amount of child support collected on TANF cases to the Custodial Parent (CP) when certain criteria were met.</p>	
<p>Basis of deviation (school loans, post-secondary, other)</p> <p>Whole family formula – credit for additional children in the household</p>	<p>Deviation is a child support amount that differs from the standard calculation.</p> <p>A deviation from the basic support obligation for legal and/or biological children other than those for whom the child support obligation is being determined.</p>	
<p>*Federal 'Flex Rule'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Median income changes ● Workgroup impacts? 	<p>The Flexibility, Efficiency, and Modernization rule was published on December 20, 2016 to strengthen the child support enforcement program and update current practices. The goals are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● increase state and employer flexibility to better serve families; ● improve program effectiveness, efficiency, and innovation; ● improve customer service; and ● remove barriers identified by employers, states, and families that impede efficient and timely child support payments. 	

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<p>*Tax Law Changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deductions• How accounted for?	<p>https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p5307.pdf</p>	
<p>*OAH and the Courts</p>		