**DCS Publishes Tribal Chapter of the DCS Policy Handbook**

**From:** Rossnagle, Brady (DSHS/DCS)
**Sent:** Thursday, October 29, 2015 11:45 AM
**To:** Tribal Child Support Contacts
**Subject:** Division of Child Support (DCS) Tribal Chapter of the DCS Policy Handbook

Greetings everyone.

I have some GREAT news to share…DCS has finalized the [Tribal Chapter (Chapter 13)](https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/division-child-support/tribal-enforcement-table-contents) of the DCS Policy Handbook and we’ve posted it to our Tribal Relations Website.

The updated Tribal Chapter reflects many excellent suggestions made by Tribes, DCS Tribal Liaisons, and DCS Headquarters Tribal Relations, IT, Central Services, and Policy Teams. DCS was able to incorporate nearly all input that was received from Tribes by email and at three (3) in-person meetings that DCS held with Tribes on June 27, 2014 (Olympia), July 28, 2014 (SeaTac), and October 2, 2014 (Tulalip).

The updates to the DCS Tribal Chapter provide:

* Strengthened language regarding tribal sovereignty and state/tribal government-to-government relationships.
* Additional language and links regarding Tribal IV-D Child Support programs.
* Examples of “tribal connections” on DCS cases, and instruction for staff to contact DCS Tribal Liaisons before taking actions on a case with tribal connections.
* Plain Talk, grammar, punctuation and formatting edits.
* Clarified policy or procedure, in sections that were not clear or outdated.
* Updated hyperlinks, resources, and procedure *(as DCS wrote some sections of the Tribal Chapter over 15 years ago).*

DCS would like to thank Tribes for the excellent input we received by email and at the three (3) meetings where we reviewed each section of the Tribal Chapter. We would especially like to thank the Puyallup Tribe Child Support Program for recommending the in-person meetings and for providing detailed feedback on the entire Chapter. It was a wonderful process that resulted in a greatly-improved Tribal Policy Chapter.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

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**Tribal Website**: [www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/division-child-support/tribal-relations](http://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/division-child-support/tribal-relations)

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