

**SURVEY OF IV-D PROGRAMS' CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES –
IS THERE A SELF-SUPPORT RESERVE?**

STATE	SSR?	Comments	Reference
Alabama	No	Rule 32(C)(1) provides: The court may use its discretion in determining child support in circumstances where combined adjusted gross income is below the lowermost levels or exceeds the uppermost levels of the schedule.	http://www.fa-ir.org/alabama/cs/Rule32.htm
Alaska	No	Minimum obligation \$50/month (no matter how many kids), except in split custody/visitation abatement cases. It would appear that Alaska may have had SSR before, as there is a note re Federal Poverty Guidelines, but it refers to a section of rule 90.3 that doesn't exist: CR 90.3(c)(1)(B)	Alaska rules of Civil Procedure, rule 90.3
Arizona	Yes	\$775	http://www.supreme.state.az.us/dr/childsup/CSG2004.pdf section 15, self support reserve test (p 14)
Arkansas	No		http://courts.state.ar.us/pdf/admin_order10.pdf
California	No	“Low-income adjustment” presumed when NCP net <\$1000/mo The low-income adjustment shall reduce the child support amount otherwise determined under this section by an amount that is no greater than the amount calculated by multiplying the child support amount otherwise determined under this section by a fraction, the numerator of which is 1,000 minus the obligor's net disposable income per month, and the denominator of which is 1,000. 8) Unless the court orders otherwise, the order for child support shall allocate the support amount so that the amount of support for the youngest child is the amount of support for one child, and the amount for the next youngest child is the difference between that amount and the amount for two children, with similar allocations for additional children. However, this paragraph does not apply to cases in which there are different time-sharing arrangements for different children or where the court determines that the allocation would be inappropriate in the particular case.	http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/displaycode?section=fam&group=04001-05000&file=4050-4076

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Colorado	Maybe	<p>Low-income adjustment if parent with least time with kid has income of less than \$1850/mo (C) Except as otherwise provided in sub-subparagraph (D) of this subparagraph (II), in circumstances in which the parents' combined monthly adjusted gross income is eight hundred fifty dollars or more, but in which the parent with the least number of overnights per year with the child has a monthly adjusted gross income of less than one thousand eight hundred fifty dollars, the court or delegate child support enforcement unit, pursuant to section 26-13.5-105 (4), C.R.S., shall perform a low-income adjustment calculation of child support as follows: The court or delegate child support enforcement unit shall determine each parent's monthly adjusted gross income, as that term is defined in sub-subparagraph (A) of this subparagraph (II). Based upon the parents' combined monthly adjusted gross incomes, the court or delegate child support enforcement unit shall determine the monthly basic child support obligation, using the schedule of basic child support obligations set forth in paragraph (b) of this subsection (10) and shall determine each parent's presumptive proportionate share of said obligation. The court or delegate child support enforcement unit shall then adjust the income of the parent with the fewest number of overnights per year with the child by subtracting nine hundred dollars from that parent's monthly adjusted gross income. The court shall multiply the resulting amount by a factor of forty percent. The product of the multiplication shall be added to the following basic minimum child support amount as additional minimum support, unless the product of the multiplication amount is zero or a negative figure, in which case the court shall add zero to the following basic minimum child support amount: Seventy-five dollars for one child; one hundred fifty dollars for two children; two hundred twenty-five dollars for three children; two hundred seventy-</p>	(10) II (C) 14-10-115 CRS

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Colorado (continued)		five dollars for four children; three hundred twenty-five dollars for five children; and three hundred fifty dollars for six or more children. The court or delegate child support enforcement unit shall compare the product of this addition to the parent's presumptive proportionate share of the monthly basic support obligation determined previously from the schedule of basic child support obligations. The lesser of the two amounts shall be the basic monthly support obligation to be paid by the low-income parent, as adjusted by the low-income parent's proportionate share of the work-related and education-related child care costs, health insurance, extraordinary medical expenses, and other extraordinary adjustments as described in subsections (11) to (13.5) of this section. The low-income adjustment shall not apply when each parent keeps the children more than ninety-two overnights each year as defined in subsection (8) of this section. In no case, however, shall the amount of child support ordered to be paid exceed the amount of child support that would otherwise be ordered to be paid if the parents did not share physical custody.	
Connecticut	No	No support owed by NCP who earns less than \$50/wk (\$216/mo). Special low-income table; low-income obligor does not pay health care coverage	http://www.jud.state.ct.us/Publications/ChildSupport/2005CSguidelines.pdf
Delaware	Yes	SSR depends on number of children in the household for whom support is sought compared to the total number of children that the NCP does in fact support. SS allowance is \$970/mo; recalculated every 2 years. Minimum is 20% of “primary support allowance” for the # of kids for whom support is sought, unless split/shared custody or disabled NCP	http://courts.state.de.us/How%20To/Support/?ChildSupportGuidelinesEdV121106.pdf
Florida	No		http://dor.myflorida.com/dor/childsupport/pdf/poz8.pdf

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Georgia	Maybe	Low-income person <\$1850/mo gross	http://www.lexis-nexis.com/hottopics/gacode/default.asp OGCA 19-6-15 (i)(2)(B)
Hawaii	Yes	Minimum \$50mpc. Hawaii uses “SOLA income,” which is gross income minus the base net self-support need for each parent (currently \$743/mo)	http://www.hawaii.gov/jud/Oahu/Family/CSGdline.pdf
Idaho	No	But there is a presumptive minimum obligation	http://www.isc.idaho.gov/icsg_cov.htm
Illinois	No	750 ILCS 5/505(a)(1) the court shall use the guidelines for minimum support (% of income based on # of kids). 505(a)(2): reasons to deviate include (2)(e): the financial resources and needs of the NCP. No specific formula given.	Illinois Compiled Statutes 750 ILCS 5/505 http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs4.asp?DocName=075000050HPt%2E+V&ActID=2086&ChapAct=750%26nbsp%3BILCS%26nbsp%3B5%2F&ChapterID=59&ChapterName=FAMILIES&SectionID=63103&SeqStart=9600&SeqEnd=12500&ActName=Illinois+Marriage+and+Di
Indiana	No	For obligors with a combined weekly adjusted income, as defined by these Guidelines, of less than \$100.00, the Guidelines provide for case-by-case determination of child support, normally with a range of \$25.00-\$50.00 weekly. In such cases, the Court should carefully review the obligor's income and living expenses to determine the maximum amount of child support that can reasonably be ordered without denying the obligor the means for self-support at a minimum subsistence level. A specific amount of child support should always be ordered. Comment: Minimum Support. The Guideline's schedules for weekly support payments do not provide an amount of support for couples with combined weekly adjusted income of less than \$100.00. Consequently the Guidelines do not establish a minimum support obligation. Instead the facts of each individual case must be examined and support set in such	http://www.in.gov/judiciary/rules/child_support/index.html#g3

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Indiana (continued)		a manner that the obligor is not denied a means of self-support at a subsistence level. It is, however, recommended that a specific amount of support be set. Even in situations where the noncustodial parent has no income, courts have routinely established a child support obligation at some minimum level. An obligor cannot be held in contempt for failure to pay support when there is no means to pay, but the obligation accrues and serves as a reimbursement if the obligor later acquires the ability to meet the obligation.	
Iowa	No		https://childsupport.dhs.state.ia.us/guidelines.asp
Kansas	No		http://www.kscourts.org/ctruls/csintro.htm
Kentucky	No		http://www.lrc.ky.gov/KRS/403-00/211.PDF
Louisiana	No	RS 9:315.1(C)(1)(a): If the combined adjusted gross income of the parties is less than the lowest sum shown on the schedule, the court shall determine an amount of child support based on the facts of the case, except that the amount awarded shall not be less than the minimum child support provided in R.S. 9:315.14. 9:315.14: mandatory minimum award of \$100; if NCP has a medically documented disability that limits his ability to meet the mandatory minimum, the court may set an award of <\$100	http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=107373 Louisiana RS 9:315, Part I-A, Child Support
Maine	No		http://janus.state.me.us/legis/statutes/19-A/title19-Asec2001.html
Maryland	No		http://www.dhr.state.md.us/csea/help.htm
Massachusetts	No		http://www.mass.gov/courts/formsandguidelines/csg2006.html
Michigan	Maybe	Poverty level income calculation used when parent has \$776 or less per month	http://www.courts.mi.gov/scao/resources/publications/manuals/focb/2004MCSFmanual.pdf

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Minnesota	Yes	518A.42 SSR is 120% of federal poverty guidelines for one person	http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/bin/getpub.php?pubtype=STAT_CHAP&year=2006&section=518A#stat.518A.26.0
Mississippi	No	Percentage of income based on number of kids. No minimum obligation stated.	http://www.mscode.com/free/statutes/43/019/0101.htm Mississippi Code Sec 43-19-101
Missouri	No		http://www.courts.mo.gov/sup/index.nsf/d45a7635d4bfbdb8f8625662000632638/64c9d1dfef67046e86256fb70073df81?OpenDocument
Montana	Yes	Rule 8 (ARM 37.62.114) FPI times 1.3	http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/csed/packet/guidelines.pdf
Nebraska	Yes	R. Basic Subsistence Limitation \$851 or FPI	http://supremecourt.ne.gov/rules/pdf/childsupp-06.pdf
Nevada	No		http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-125B.html
New Hampshire	Yes	<p>IV. Self-support reserve and minimum child support obligation.</p> <p>(a) If the obligor parent's gross income is less than the self-support reserve and the court has determined that the obligor is not voluntarily unemployed or underemployed, the court shall order the child support obligation in the amount of a minimum support order.</p> <p>(b) If the obligor parent's gross income is greater than the self-support reserve but payment of the order as calculated under this chapter would reduce the obligor parent's income below the self-support reserve, the obligor parent's share of the total support obligation shall be presumed to be the difference between the self-support reserve and that parent's adjusted gross income, but in any event shall be no less than the amount of a minimum support order.</p>	http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/NHTOC/NHTOC-XLIII-458-C.htm

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New Jersey	Yes	h. Self-Support Reserve - The self-support reserve is a factor in calculating a child support award only when one or both of the parents have income at or near the poverty level. The self-support reserve is 105% of the U.S. poverty guideline for one person. It attempts to ensure that the obligor has sufficient income to maintain a basic subsistence 6 level and the incentive to work so that child support can be paid. A child support award is adjusted to reflect the self-support reserve only if its payment would reduce the obligor's net income	http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/csguide/98r56a.htm
New Jersey (continued)		below the reserve and the custodial parent's (or the Parent of the Primary Residence's) net income is greater than 105% of the poverty guideline. The latter condition is necessary to ensure that custodial parents can meet their basic needs so that they can care for the children. As of January 24, 2007, the self-support reserve is \$206.00 (this amount is 105% of the poverty guideline for one person).	
New Mexico	Not Really	General hardship grounds for deviation 40-4-11.2	http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/csed/guidelines.html
New York	Yes	NCP income below FPL for single person; \$25mpmc minimum or diff btw income and SSR, whichever is greater (1-b) (d)	http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/menugetf.cgi?COMMONQUERY=LAWS
North Carolina	Yes	816/mo with minimum support order	http://www.nccourts.org/Forms/Documents/981.pdf
North Dakota	Yes	75-02-04.1-09 Criteria for rebuttal of guideline amount. 1.a, subsistence needs of obligor	http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/childsupport/docs/current-guidelines.pdf
Ohio	No	3119.04 where combined gross is < or > amounts in schedule (A) If the combined gross income of both parents is less than six thousand six hundred dollars per year, the court or child support enforcement agency shall determine the amount of the obligor's child support obligation on a case-by-case basis using the schedule as a guideline. The court or agency shall review the obligor's gross income and living expenses to	Ohio Rev Code 3119.01 et seq http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/3119

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Ohio (continued)		determine the maximum amount of child support that it reasonably can order without denying the obligor the means for self-support at a minimum subsistence level and shall order a specific amount of child support, unless the obligor proves to the court or agency that the obligor is totally unable to pay child support, and the court or agency determines that it would be unjust or inappropriate to order the payment of child support and enters its determination and supporting findings of fact in the journal. 3119.06 minimum order: \$50/mo but discretion to go below or even zero. The circumstances under which a court may issue such an order include the nonresidential parent's medically verified or documented physical or mental disability or institutionalization in a facility for persons with a mental illness or any other circumstances considered appropriate by the court.	
Oklahoma	No	% of gross	Okla Statutes title 43, sections 118-120 http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/DeliverDocument.asp?CiteID=439676
Oregon	Yes	(7) Low income adjustment 137-050-0465 SSR is \$884	http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/rules/OARS_100/OAR_137/137_050.html
Pennsylvania	Yes	D. <i>Self-Support Reserve</i> (“SSR”). The amended schedule also incorporates an increase in the “Self-Support Reserve” or “SSR” from \$550 per month to \$748 per month, the 2003 federal poverty level for one person. Formerly designated as the “Computed Allowance Minimum” or “CAM,” the Self-Support Reserve, as it is termed in most other states’ guidelines, is intended to assure that low-income obligors retain sufficient income to meet their own basic needs, as well as to maintain the incentive to continue employment. The SSR is built into the schedule in Rule 1910.16-3 and adjusts the basic support obligation to prevent the obligor’s net income from falling below \$748 per month. Because the schedule in Rule 1910.16-3 applies to child support only, Rule 1910.16-2(e)(1)(B) provides for a similar adjustment in	http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/231/chapter1910/chap1910toc.html

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Pennsylvania (continued)		spousal support and alimony pendent lite cases to assure that the obligor retains a minimum of \$748 per month.	
Rhode Island	Yes	\$804; minimum obligation \$50/month	http://www.cse.ri.gov/downloads/guidelines_formula_worksheet.pdf
South Carolina	Yes	Para 3.6	http://www.state.sc.us/dss/csed/forms/2006guidelines.pdf
South Dakota	No		http://legis.state.sd.us/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Type=Statute&Statute=25-7
Tennessee	Maybe	Deviation for low-income persons (annual gross income at or below FPL for single person)	http://www.state.tn.us/sos/rules/1240/1240-02/1240-02-04.pdf
Texas	No	% of net resources	http://tlo2.tlc.state.tx.us/statutes/docs/FA/content/pdf/fa.005.00.000154.00.pdf
Utah	No		Utah code 78-45-7 et seq http://le.utah.gov/~code/TITLE78/78_38.htm
Vermont	Yes		Vt. Stat. Title 15 sec 653-657 http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/sections.cfm?Title=15&Chapter=011
Virginia	No	Exemptions from this presumptive minimum monthly child support obligation shall include: parents unable to pay child support because they lack sufficient assets from which to pay child support and who, in addition, are institutionalized in a psychiatric facility; are imprisoned with no chance of parole; are medically verified to be totally and permanently disabled with no evidence of potential for paying child support, including recipients of Supplemental Security Income (SSI); or are otherwise involuntarily unable to produce income.	http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?000+cod+20-108.2
Washington	Yes	NCP income shall not be reduced below one person need standard except for \$25pm pc	RCW 26.19.065(2) http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=26.19.065
West Virginia	No		http://www.legis.state.wv.us/WVCODE/48/masterfrm2Frm.htm

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Wisconsin	No	Low-Income payer table, when NCP earns less than \$950/month	http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/bcs/chapter.htm low income payer table http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/bcs/pdf/low_income_table.pdf
Wyoming	No	(b) Where the combined income of the custodial parent and the noncustodial parent is less than eight hundred thirty-three dollars (\$833.00), the support obligation of the noncustodial parent shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of net income, but in no case shall the support obligation be less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) per month for each family unit in which there are children to whom the noncustodial parent owes a duty of support.	http://legisweb.state.wy.us/statutes/titles/Title20/T20CH2AR3.htm
TERRITORIES			
District of Columbia	Yes	133% of FPL for single individual (2)(g) if parent below FPL, parent considered unable to contribute schedule amount. Presumed minimum obligation of \$50/mo, can deviate to zero or upward.	DC Code Ann sec 16-916.1 http://csgc.oag.dc.gov/application/help/Child%20Support%20Guideline%20Revision%20Act.pdf
Guam	Yes	2. The Gross Income Shall be Adjusted as Follows: a. Each parent shall be entitled to deduct \$710.00 from gross income for "self-support." The basic gross income need is based on the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Report, and pp. 60-181 (1991) needs for minimum food, clothing, shelter, and other essential needs. Min obligation \$50pm	http://www.guamcse.net/forms/guidelinesC.pdf
Puerto Rico	Yes	\$515/month; minimum obligation \$100/mo	http://www.gobierno.pr/NR/rdonlyres/7693B096-0F99-428F-ADAE-4BE2D19DA82C/8507/GuiasparaDeterminaryModificarlasPensionesAlimenta.pdf