

CHILD SUPPORT: MEASURING PERFORMANCE

The effectiveness of state IV-D child support programs is measured by five key performance indicators:

- Paternity Establishment Percentage (PEP)
- Percentage of Orders Established
- Percentage of Current Support Collected
- Percentage of Cases with Arrears Collections
- Cost Effectiveness

These indicators are used to determine the amount of federal incentives a state child support program can earn at the end of each federal fiscal year. The following provides a simplistic overview of the formulas used for these calculations, which are expressed as percentages. Specific details can be found in 45 C.F.R. Part 305-Program Performance Measures, Standards, Financial Incentives, and Penalties.

PEP: A state may use one of two methods to calculate its PEP- Statewide or IV-D:

IV-D PEP

Total number of children in IV-D caseload who were born out of wedlock with paternity established or acknowledged during the fiscal year

Total number of children in the IV-D caseload who were born out of wedlock as of the end of the preceding fiscal year

Statewide PEP

Total number of minor children who have been born out of wedlock and for whom paternity has been established or acknowledged this year

Total number of children born out of wedlock during the preceding fiscal year

Percentage of Orders Established:

Number of IV-D cases with support orders during the fiscal year

Total number of IV-D cases during the fiscal year

Percentage of Current Support Collected:

Total dollars collected for current support in IV - D Cases

Total dollars owed for current support in IV-D Cases

Percentage of Cases with Arrears Collections:

Total number of eligible* IV - D cases paying toward arrears

Total number of IV-D cases with arrears due

Cost Effectiveness:

Total IV - D dollars collected

Total IV - D dollars expended