

**This policy has been amended by the following:**

- **CN-284: Affordable Care Act Implementation UPDATED**

## Chapter 13: Tribal Enforcement

### Section 13.020: Processing and Distributing Tribal TANF Child Support Payments

This section describes how to appropriately apply tribal TANF child support payments to cases.

#### Contents

42 USC 612 Tribal TANF

42 USC 654 Cooperative child support agreements

RCW 26.23.035 distribution of support payments

**Laws:** Chapter 26.25 RCW Cooperative child support services - Tribes

WAC 388-14A-5000 - 5100 allows DCS to distribute support money to a tribe with TANF program or cooperative agreement

Federal and State law allows the Division of Child Support (DCS) to distribute child support money to an Indian tribe with a Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, a IV-D program or a state/tribal cooperative child support agreement.

**Policy:** DCS must receive a child support assignment or an assignment by operation of tribal law.

DCS distributes child support payments to tribes by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).

Process suspense payments once we have received the tribal TANF assignment.

**Procedure:** Notify the custodial parent (CP) that DCS intends to distribute support payments to the tribal TANF program.

Use the algorithm to apply payments on tribal TANF cases.

**Visual** Tribal Relations Internet site

**Aids:**

**Automated  
Actions:**

**SEMS** CF, SI, AV  
**Screens:**

**Forms** 09-875, 18-606, Child Support Referral - Tribe, TANF Assignment - Tribal  
**Used:**

**Hearing  
and  
Conference  
Board  
Rights:**

Refer all requests to the Regional Tribal Liaison or Tribal Claims Officer

**See Also:**

OCSE-AT-04-01 Final Rule: Tribal Child Support Enforcement Programs  
Final Rule on Tribal Child Support Enforcement Programs  
OCSE-AT-05-07 Miscellaneous Issues regarding 45 CFR part 309, the  
Tribal Child Support Enforcement Program Final Rule  
13.015 Establishing and Setting Up a Tribal TANF Case  
13.025 Taking Action when Tribal TANF Terminates  
Previous Policy June 5, 2007  
Previous Policy

**Procedures**

**A. When can DCS distribute child support money to a tribe?**

- Under federal and state law, the Division of Child Support (DCS) can distribute child support money to an Indian tribe with a:
  - a. Tribal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program,
  - b. Tribal IV-D program, or
  - c. State/tribal cooperative agreement.

## B. How does DCS send payments to a tribal TANF program?

1. DCS distributes child support payments to tribes using Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT).
2. The tribe can use the **Authorization for Receipt of Electronic Funds Transfer - Tribal Child Support Programs**, DSHS 18-606 to provide bank information to DCS for EFT payments.

## C. What if there is a payment in suspense on a tribal TANF case?

1. Ensure DCS has received a copy of the tribal TANF assignment of support, or that an automatic assignment exists by operation of tribal law.
2. Verify that a state/tribal child support agreement exists.
  - a. If an agreement does **not** exist, send the **Letter of Intent to Distribute Support Money - Tribal**, DSHS 09-875, to the custodial parent (CP).
  - b. Send a copy of the DSHS 09-875 to the tribe.
3. Open a new tribal TANF case for each NCP and set the case financial (**CF**) screen. See Section 13.015.
4. Use the adjustment voucher (**AV**) to process payments in suspense.
5. Remove the special instructions (**SI**).

## D. How does DCS distribute support when there is a tribal TANF case?

- When the Support Enforcement Management System (SEMS) or a Support Enforcement Officer (SEO) distributes payments between Washington State cases and tribal TANF cases, the normal algorithm applies.