

Subject:	Credits On Active Obligations: Refunding Monies To Obligors	Number:	2008-17
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Approved by:	Benidia A. Rice, Director	Revision	AMENDED FINAL VERSION

- I. <u>PURPOSE</u>: To formalize the procedures that are implemented when money is returned to noncustodial parents; to stipulate instances when money shall be returned to a noncustodial parent (obligor).
- II. <u>REFERENCES</u>: 45 CFR § 302.51, <u>Distribution of support collections</u>; OCSE AT-97-17, <u>Instructions for the distribution of child support under Section 457 of the Social Security Act.</u>
- III. <u>POLICY</u>: CSSD will only refund money to noncustodial parents in very limited circumstances. The policy for refunding payments is as follows:

#### 1) Enforcement Actions

Monies are refunded in cases where payment was received through enforcement actions. Enforcement actions consist of:

- Federal/State Tax intercept,
- Financial Institution Data Match (FIDM),
- Income/Wage withholding,
- Unemployment Insurance,
- Lottery Intercept,
- Administrative Offset,
- Workmen's Compensation,
- Out-of-State Payments.

### 2) Voluntary Payments

Voluntary Payments are not refundable in cases where an ongoing support obligation exists; they are automatically disbursed to the payee. Voluntary payments consist of:

- Cash,
- Personal check,
- Money order.

Voluntary payments are refundable in arrears only cases once all arrears have been paid in full.

#### 3) Distribution of Funds

Monies will be refunded to an obligor if all of the following conditions apply:

- a. All applicable funds have been disbursed to payee for current support;
- b. Any applicable funds have been applied to arrears: TANF and Non TANF;

- c. Any remaining funds after arrears distribution have been applied to outstanding balances for Medicaid, medical support, or genetic testing fees; and.
- d. The obligor has a credit equaling to or exceeding two (2) months of current support.

## 4) Application of Future Payments

- a. In Non-TANF cases, future payments shall be disbursed to the payee immediately upon receipt.
- b. In TANF cases, future payments are placed on hold and are not disbursed until the due date of the payment.

# 5) Manual Refund Procedure

Although DCCSES is equipped with an automatic refund component; it is currently disabled. It has been determined that processing refunds manually is more reliable and better prevents the occurrence of erroneous refunding. All refunds are implemented manually by a staff person in the Fiscal Operations Section based on the Application Problem Report (APR) that is received daily through DCCSES batch processing.