

Child Support Enforcement and Child Support Collections—CBO’s April 2018 Baseline

The Child Support Enforcement (CSE) program is a joint federal, state, and local effort to secure financial support from noncustodial parents. People who receive benefits from certain other federal assistance programs automatically receive the CSE program’s services; others may apply for them. The federal government makes incentive payments to states to operate CSE programs efficiently, and it reimburses states for 66 percent of their programs’ operating expenses. There is no limit on federal spending to defray those state expenditures. The federal government also makes grants to states to support services for children and families under the program.

States also collect child support payments on behalf of families that receive cash assistance through the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program. The receipts are used to reimburse those states and to return funds to the federal government for TANF payments to families.

Child Support Enforcement and Child Support Collections—April 2018 Baseline

(Outlays by Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Child Support Enforcement											
Child Support Administration	3,491	3,488	3,509	3,526	3,541	3,553	3,558	3,574	3,590	3,605	3,620
Incentive Payments	584	597	610	625	640	656	672	689	705	722	740
Payments to Territories; Repatriation	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
Total	4,095	4,105	4,139	4,170	4,201	4,230	4,250	4,283	4,315	4,347	4,380
Child Support Collections											
TANF Collections Retained by Federal Government	-619	-612	-605	-597	-589	-582	-574	-565	-557	-549	-540

Note: TANF = Temporary Assistance to Needy Families; Details may not add up to totals because of rounding.