

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

CHILDREN’S RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

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ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
Children's Research and Technical Assistance

Authorizing Legislation

	FY 2011 Amount Authorized	FY 2011 Budget Estimate	FY 2012 Amount Authorized	FY 2012 Budget Request
1. Training and Technical Assistance: Section 452(j) of the Social Security Act	The amount authorized and appropriated is equal to the greater of one percent of the total amount paid to the federal government for its share of child support collections for the preceding year or the amount appropriated for this activity for FY 2002.	\$12,318,000	The amount authorized and appropriated is equal to the greater of one percent of the total amount paid to the federal government for its share of child support collections for the preceding year or the amount appropriated for this activity for FY 2002.	\$12,318,000
2. Federal Parent Locator Service: Section 453(o) of the Social Security Act	The amount authorized and appropriated is equal to the greater of two percent of the total amount paid to the federal government for its share of child support collections for the preceding year or the amount appropriated for this activity for FY 2002.	24,635,000	The amount authorized and appropriated is equal to the greater of two percent of the total amount paid to the federal government for its share of child support collections for the preceding year or the amount appropriated for this activity for FY 2002.	24,635,000
3. Child Welfare Study: Section 429(e) of the Social Security Act	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,000,000 <sup>1</sup>	6,000,000
4. Welfare Research: Section 413(h) of the Social Security Act	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000
Total request level		\$57,953,000		\$57,953,000

<sup>1</sup> FY 2012 Amount Authorized reflects Administration's proposal for a one-year extension.

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Children's Research and Technical Assistance

Appropriations History Table

<u>Year</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>
2003	35,385,000
2004	55,998,000
2005	55,398,000
2006	57,953,000
2007	57,953,000
2008	57,953,000
2009	57,953,000
2010	57,953,000
2011	57,953,000
2012	57,593,000

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Amounts Available for Obligation

	FY 2010 <u>Actual</u>	FY 2011 <u>Current Law</u>	FY 2012 <u>Estimate</u>
Pre-Appropriated, B.A.	\$57,953,000	\$57,953,000	\$57,953,000
<b>Subtotal, Net Budget Authority</b>	<b>\$57,953,000</b>	<b>\$57,953,000</b>	<b>\$57,953,000</b>
Offsetting Collections from Federal Funds	23,305,000	25,000,000	26,000,000
Unobligated balance, start of year	4,799,000	5,015,000	0
Unobligated balance, lapsing	-13,000	0	0
Recoveries of prior year obligations	30,000		
Unobligated balance, end of year	-5,015,000	0	0
<b>Total Obligations</b>	<b>\$81,059,000</b>	<b>\$87,968,000</b>	<b>\$83,953,000</b>

Budget Authority by Activity

	FY 2010 <u>Enacted</u>	FY 2011 <u>Current Law</u>	FY 2012 <u>Estimate</u>
Training and Technical Assistance	\$12,318,000	\$12,318,000	\$12,318,000
Federal Parent Locator Service	24,635,000	24,635,000	24,635,000
Child Welfare Study	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,000,000
Welfare Research	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000
<b>Total, Budget Authority</b>	<b>\$57,953,000</b>	<b>\$57,953,000</b>	<b>\$57,953,000</b>

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Children's Research and Technical Assistance

Justification

	FY 2010 Enacted	FY 2011 Current Law	FY 2012 Estimate	FY12 Change from FY11 Current Law
Total, Budget Authority	\$57,953,000	\$57,953,000	\$57,953,000	0
Obligations	\$81,059,000	\$87,968,000	\$83,953,000	-\$4,015,000

Authorizing Legislation – Sections 413(h), 429(e), 452(j) and 453(o) of the Social Security Act

2012 Authorization ..... Training and Technical Assistance and Federal Parent Locator Service authorized indefinitely based on a formula; Welfare Research and Child Welfare Study pending Congressional action.

Allocation Method ..... Direct Federal/Contract

General Statement

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-193) and the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-171) authorize and appropriate funds for welfare research and technical support for states implementing welfare reform. These efforts include training and technical assistance to support the dissemination of information and technical assistance to the states on child support enforcement activities as well as the Federal Parent Locator Service which assists states in locating non-custodial parents.

**Program Description and Accomplishments** – The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) included two provisions which target funding to strengthen the federal government's capacity to influence the effectiveness of the child support enforcement program.

The first provision, pertaining to an amount equivalent to the greater of either one percent of the federal share of child support collections in the prior year or the amount appropriated for this activity in FY 2002, is directed to cover the Department's costs in providing technical assistance to states (including technical assistance related to state automated systems), training of state and federal staff, staffing studies, information dissemination and related activities; and to support research, demonstration, and special projects of regional or national significance relating to the operation of state child support programs. These activities are key to successful state outcomes in implementing welfare reform and attaining the anticipated benefits of the statute. Amounts under this provision are available until expended.

The second provision, pertaining to an amount equal to the greater of either two percent of the federal share of child support collections in the prior year or the amount appropriated for this activity in FY 2002, is directed to cover the Department's costs in operating the Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS) to the extent that these costs are not recovered through fees. The FPLS includes a set of databases and data matching authorities, including the Federal Child Support Case Registry, a database of child support cases, participants, and orders, and the National Directory of New Hires, a database of employment information. The Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) added a web-based portal that allows states and employers to efficiently access data. State and local child support enforcement agencies use

FPLS data to locate non-custodial parents, putative fathers, and custodial parties for the establishment of paternity and child support obligations, as well as to assist in the enforcement and modification of orders for child support, custody and visitation. States rely on FPLS to facilitate standardized and centralized communication and data exchanges across state child support programs and with employers, multistate financial institutions, insurance companies and other federal agencies. FPLS has contributed to an increase in the overall effectiveness and performance of the child support program, and supports two long term performance goals and five annual performance goals for OCSE. The NDNH also supports three long-term performance goals and three annual performance goals for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. FPLS data are also used to reduce erroneous payments and overall program costs in public assistance and benefit programs. The FPLS is crucial to helping the (OCSE) fulfill its mission in assisting states to secure the financial support upon which millions of our nation's children depend, and has contributed to an increase in the overall effectiveness and performance of the child support program. Amounts under this provision are available until expended.

The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 continued funding for research in the areas of child abuse and welfare reform. An amount of \$15,000,000 a year is provided for the cost of conducting welfare research studies and demonstrations. Additionally, \$6,000,000 a year is made available to continue efforts on a national random sample study of children who are at-risk of child abuse or neglect or are determined by states to have been abused or neglected.

See the following sections of this submission for performance discussions related to the programs included in this account: the Child Support Enforcement and Family Support Programs section covers performance for the child support enforcement program which includes the Training and Technical Assistance and FPLS activities; the TANF section covers performance for the TANF program which includes the Welfare Research activities; and the Payments for Foster Care and Permanency section covers performance for the Foster Care program which includes the Child Welfare Study activities.

**Budget Request** – The FY 2012 request for Children's Research and Technical Assistance is \$57,953,000, the same as the FY 2011 enacted level. This request will fund child support training and technical assistance efforts, the operation of the FPLS, and welfare research. This request includes a one-year reauthorization of the \$15 million welfare research and extension of \$6 million child welfare study funds as part of the reauthorization of the TANF program.

Resource and Program Data  
Training and Technical Assistance

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Current Law	FY 2012 Estimate
<u>Resource Data:</u>			
Service Grants			
Formula			
Discretionary	\$1,245,000	\$1,282,000	\$1,282,000
Research/Evaluation	313,000	313,000	313,000
Demonstration/Development			
Training/Technical Assistance	1,806,000	1,999,000	868,000
Program Support	9,755,000	10,609,000	9,855,000
Total, Resources	\$13,119,000	\$14,203,000	\$12,318,000
<u>Program Data:</u>			
Number of Grants	23	23	23
New Starts			
#	6	6	6
\$	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Continuations			
#	17	17	17
\$	\$745,000	\$782,000	\$782,000
Contracts			
#	14	16	10
\$	\$3,579,000	\$3,975,000	\$1,890,000
Interagency Agreements			
#	7	7	7
\$	\$1,179,000	\$1,205,000	\$1,205,000

Notes:

1. The numbers reflect total obligations which include obligations made from prior year unobligated balances.
2. Program Support – includes funding for information technology, salaries/benefits and associated overhead costs.



Resource and Program Data  
Federal Parent Locator Service

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Current Law	FY 2012 Estimate
<u>Resource Data:</u>			
Service Grants			
Formula			
Discretionary			
Research/Evaluation			
Demonstration/Development			
Training/Technical Assistance	\$17,030,000	\$20,541,000	\$19,684,000
Program Support	29,923,000	32,224,000	30,951,000
Total, Resources	\$46,953,000	\$52,765,000	\$50,635,000
<u>Program Data:</u>			
Number of Grants	0	0	0
New Starts			
#	0	0	0
\$	\$0	\$0	\$0
Continuations			
#	0	0	0
\$	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contracts			
#	8	10	9
\$	\$29,434,000	\$37,097,000	\$35,175,000
Interagency Agreements			
#	12	9	8
\$	\$10,975,000	\$8,880,000	\$8,379,000

Notes:

1. The numbers reflect total obligations which include obligations made from prior year unobligated balances, fees from the states to pay costs associated with offset notice preparation, and fees from state and federal agencies to pay costs associated with Federal Parent locator Services.
2. Program Support – Includes funding for information technology, salaries/benefits and associated overhead costs.

Resource and Program Data  
Child Welfare Study

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Current Law	FY 2012 Estimate
<u>Resource Data:</u>			
Service Grants			
Formula			
Discretionary			
Research/Evaluation	\$5,994,000	\$6,000,000	\$5,960,000
Demonstration/Development			
Training/Technical Assistance			
Program Support			40,000
Total, Resources	\$5,994,000	\$6,000,000	\$6,000,000
<u>Program Data:</u>			
Number of Grants	0	0	0
New Starts			
#	0	0	0
\$	\$0	\$0	\$0
Continuations			
#	0	0	0
\$	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contracts			
#	2	1	1
\$	\$5,994,000	\$6,000,000	\$5,960,000
Interagency Agreements			
#	0	0	0
\$	\$0	\$0	\$0

Notes:

1. Program Support – Includes funding for information technology and administrative fees.

Resource and Program Data  
Welfare Research

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Current Law	FY 2012 Estimate
<u>Resource Data:</u>			
Service Grants			
Formula			
Discretionary			
Research/Evaluation	\$14,199,000	\$14,206,000	\$14,206,000
Demonstration/Development			
Training/Technical Assistance			
Program Support	794,000	794,000	794,000
Total, Resources	\$14,993,000	\$15,000,000	\$15,000,000
<u>Program Data:</u>			
Number of Grants	1	1	1
New Starts			
#	0	0	0
\$	\$0	\$0	\$0
Continuations			
#	1	1	1
\$	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Contracts			
#	19	19	19
\$	\$13,224,000	\$13,231,000	\$13,231,000
Interagency Agreements			
#	9	9	9
\$	\$1,240,000	\$1,240,000	\$1,240,000

Notes:

1. Program Support – Includes funding for information technology and administrative fees.