

**WAC 388-14A-5001 What procedures does DCS follow to distribute support collections?**

(1) When distributing support collections, the division of child support (DCS) records collections in exact amounts of dollars and cents.

(2) DCS distributes support collections within two days of the date DCS receives the collection, unless DCS is unable to distribute the collection for one or more of the following reasons:

(a) DCS is unable to locate the payee and the payee has not signed up for electronic funds transfer (EFT) of disbursements;

(b) DCS does not have sufficient information to identify the accounts against which or to which it should distribute the money;

(c) An action is pending before a court or agency which has jurisdiction over the issue to determine whether child support is owed or how DCS should distribute the collection;

(d) DCS receives prepaid child support and is holding it for distribution in future months under WAC 388-14A-5008;

(e) DCS mails a notice of intent to distribute support money under WAC 388-14A-5050;

(f) DCS receives federal tax refund offset collections, which are distributed according to WAC 388-14A-5005 and 388-14A-5010;

(g) DCS may hold funds and not issue a check to the family for amounts under one dollar. DCS must give credit for the collection, but may delay disbursement of that amount until a future collection is received which increases the amount of the disbursement to the family to at least one dollar. If no future collections are received which increase the disbursement to the family to at least one dollar, DCS transfers the amount to the department of revenue under RCW 63.30.040. This subsection does not apply to disbursements which can be made by EFT; or

(h) Other circumstances exist which make a proper and timely distribution of the collection impossible through no fault or lack of diligence of DCS.

(3) DCS distributes support collections based on the date DCS receives the collection, except as provided under WAC 388-14A-5005. DCS distributes support collections based on the date of collection. DCS considers the date of collection to be the date that DCS receives the support collection, no matter when the money was withheld from the noncustodial parent (NCP).

(4) Under state and federal law, the division of child support (DCS) disburses support collections to the:

(a) Department when the department provides or has provided public assistance payments for the support of the family;

(b) Payee under the order, or to the custodial parent (CP) of the child according to WAC 388-14A-5050;

(c) Child support enforcement agency in another state or foreign country which submitted a request for support enforcement services;

(d) Indian tribe which has a TANF program, child support program, or a cooperative agreement regarding the delivery of child support services;

(e) Persons or entity making the payment when DCS is unable to identify the person to whom the support is payable after making reasonable efforts to obtain identification information.

(5) If DCS is unable to disburse a support collection because the location of the family or person is unknown, it must exercise reasonable efforts to locate the family or person. When the family or person cannot be located, DCS handles the collection in accordance with chapter 63.30 RCW, the Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act.

(6) WAC 388-14A-5000 through 388-14A-5015 contain the rules for the distribution of support collections by DCS.

(7) DCS changes the distribution rules based on changes in federal statutes and regulations. DCS may also change the distribution rules based on the state budget, but only to the extent allowed by federal law.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 26.23.035 and 34.05.353 (1)(c). WSR 24-12-035, § 388-14A-5001, filed 5/30/24, effective 6/30/24. Statutory Authority: RCW 26.23.035 and 34.05.350 (1)(c). WSR 11-06-042, § 388-14A-5001, filed 2/28/11, effective 3/31/11. Statutory Authority: RCW 26.18.170, 26.23.035, 26.23.050, [26.23.]110, 74.20.040, 74.20A.030, [74.20A.]055, [74.20A.]056, and 74.20A.310. WSR 09-02-059, § 388-14A-5001, filed 1/5/09, effective 1/27/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 26.23.035, 74.08.090, 74.20A.310, and 45 C.F.R. 303.72 (h)(5). WSR 05-06-014, § 388-14A-5001, filed 2/22/05, effective 3/25/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 26.23.035, 74.08.090, 74.20A.188, 74.20A.310, 42 U.S.C. 666(a)14. WSR 01-24-078, § 388-14A-5001, filed 12/3/01, effective 1/3/02. Statutory Authority: RCW 74.08.090, 26.23.035, 74.20A.057, 74.20A.310. WSR 01-03-089, § 388-14A-5001, filed 1/17/01, effective 2/17/01. Formerly WAC 388-14-270 and 388-14-273.]