



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

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SUSAN G. OSBORNE • Assistant Secretary for Human Services

December 19, 2022

DEAR COUNTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

ATTENTION: Child Support Managers and Supervisors

SUBJECT: North Carolina Child Support Guidelines Revisions

REQUIRED ACTION: Information Only X Time Sensitive Immediate

Effective January 1, 2023, the North Carolina Guidelines are revised per the review by the Conference of Chief District Court Judges. Section 50-13.4 of the North Carolina General Statutes requires this group to prescribe uniform presumptive guidelines for child support obligations and to review those guidelines at least every four years for appropriateness.

The revised guidelines apply to all child support actions heard on or after January 1, 2023. These changes are as follows:

1. Under **“Self-Support Reserve; Support Parents with Low Incomes”**, the standard of living for one person is now based on the 2022 federal poverty level (\$1,133 per month). Also in this section, the adjusted gross income for obligors whose income falls in the shaded area is changed to less than \$1,150.00 to establish the minimum support order of \$50.00 per month. For obligors with adjusted gross incomes above \$1150.00, a further adjustment is made to the Basic Support Obligation schedule to preserve the self-support reserve for the obligor.
2. Under **“Determination of Support in Cases Involving High Combined Income”**, the Basic Support Obligation Schedule has been revised to include basic child support obligations calculations when the combined adjusted gross income is more than \$40,000.00 per month (\$480,000.00 per year.)
3. Under **“Potential or Imputed Income”**, the consideration of not imputing income when a party is the primary custodian of child who is under the age of three years has been removed. This has been replaced with considering the presence of a young or physically or mentally disabled child in the home as impacting a parent’s ability to work when determining whether a parent’s unemployment or under employment is bad faith.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES • CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

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4. Under “**Health Insurance and Health Care Costs**”, vision insurance has been added to health and dental insurance when adding the cost to the basic child support obligation, and either parent may be required to maintain vision insurance.

Other than updating the Basic Support Obligation chart and effective and revision dates, no other changes were made by the Conference of Chief District Court Judges.

The Child Support Manual, Chapter J, Support Establishment will be revised to indicate the changes effective January 1, 2023.

Copies of the Guidelines and accompanying worksheets are attached to this directive.

If you have any questions, please contact the Policy & Training Team at csetraining@dhhs.nc.gov or your Regional Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Specialist.

Sincerely,



Carla L. West
Senior Director for Human Services

cc: Regional CQI Specialist
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