

Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
A Abuse	"Abuse" means any of the following : (a) Intentionally or recklessly to cause or attempt to cause bodily injury. (b) Sexual assault. (c) To place a person in reasonable apprehension of imminent serious bodily injury to that person or to another. (d) To engage in any behavior that has been or could be enjoined pursuant to Section 6320, Family Code. (e) Battering or subjecting a victim to extreme cruelty. (1) Physical acts that resulted in, or threatened to result in, physical injury. (2) Sexual abuse. (3) Sexual activity involving a child in the home. (4) Being forced to participate in nonconsensual sexual acts or activities. (5) Threats of, or attempts at, physical or sexual abuse. (6) Mental abuse. (7) Neglect or deprivation of medical care. (8) Stalking.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110004		Case Intake	Domestic Violence; Family Violence, Child Abuse
Account	Record of financial transactions in a case, which includes a record of charges against a child support obligor for such things as current support, public assistance arrears, spousal support, court costs, attorneys' fees and interest. Also includes a record of payments by the obligor and adjustments to the financial record.		LCSA glossary		Financial	Payment Record
Account Audit	An examination of the account or accounts of a child support obligor to determine necessary adjustments and/or the balance owing.		LCSA glossary		Financial	
Action Transmittal	Document sent out by the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement, which instructs state or federally funded tribal child support programs on the actions they must take to comply with new and amended federal laws. Has basis in federal law and regulation.	AT	OCSE glossary		Interstate	
Adjudication	The entry of a judgment, decree, or order by a judge or other decision-maker such as a master, referee, or hearing officer based on the evidence submitted by the parties.		OCSE glossary		Legal	Disposition
Administration for Children and Families	The agency that houses the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).	ACF	OCSE glossary		General	
Administrative Law Judge	A person designated by the Director to conduct child support state hearings, and who shall have been admitted to practice law in California and shall possess such other qualifications as prescribed by the California State Personnel Board.	ALJ	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110028		Customer Service	

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A Administrative Offset	The process of withholding all or part of an administrative (non-tax related) payment that is paid by the federal government to a person or entity that owes an outstanding delinquent non-tax debt to the government, and then applying the funds to reduce or satisfy the debt.		OCSE glossary		Enforcement	
Administrative Procedure	A method by which support orders are made and enforced by an executive agency rather than by courts and judges.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Administrative Review	A non-judicial examination of case records and accounts completed at the request of an obligor to raise an objection to the intercept of tax refunds or a non-judicial review of case records completed at the request of an obligor(ee) to determine the amount of arrearages owed.		LCSA glossary		Financial	
Adoption	The permanent legal assumption of all parental rights and responsibilities for a child.		DCSS Policy Branch		Case Management	
Affidavit	A written statement, usually notarized, that is signed under oath or by affirmation.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Affidavit in Support of Establishing Paternity	A sworn statement by a natural parent outlining facts regarding the natural or biological father of a child for the purpose of establishing paternity.		OMB 0970-0085	Paternity Affidavit	Legal	Biological Father; Legal Father;
Agent for Service of Process	A person, persons or organization who has been designated with the authority to receive service on behalf of an organization or corporation.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Service of Process; Personal Service of Process
Agent of the Child	A person, usually a parent, who has the legal authority to act on behalf of a minor.		OCSE glossary			
Aid	Assistance payments to former recipients of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC); current and former recipients of California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs), which includes legal immigrant cases; Foster Care; and Medi-Cal.		MPP 12-101.3 (a)(1)	Assistance; Welfare;	Case Management	Public Assistance
Aid Codes	A group of codes to describe various functions and factors within an aid type.		LCSA glossary	Aid Types	Case Management	
Aid to Families with Dependent Children	Former entitlement program that made public assistance payments on behalf of children who did not have the financial support of one of their parents by reason of death, disability, or continued absence from the home; known in many states as AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children). Replaced with Temporary Aid for Needy Families (TANF) under the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA).	AFDC	OCSE glossary	Welfare	General	Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

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A Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend Intercept	The Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD) was established through a Constitutional amendment approved by Alaska voters in 1976 which functions under the belief that all qualifying Alaskans benefit equally from the state's oil wealth. This allows an annual reimbursement to families by the government. The Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend Intercept allows other states to identify delinquent child support obligors entitled to reimbursement for the purpose of intercept of funds. Alaska will only collect the PFD and send it to the other state per the other state's request.	PFD	Alaska State Constitution; childsupport.alaska.gov/FAQ		General	Intercept
Allowable Disposable Income	This is the maximum amount available for child support withholding, calculated by applying a state's limitations or the Consumer Credit Protection Act (CCPA) limits to the noncustodial parent's disposable income.		OCSE glossary	Disposable Income		Income
Also Known As	Alias, moniker, other name or nickname.	AKA	LCSA glossary		General	
Alternate Arrangement	A written agreement approved by a court or tribunal between an obligee and obligor that provides for payment of a support obligation as ordered other than through the immediate service of an income withholding order, and that is signed by the local child support agency with jurisdiction over the case when: (a) Public assistance is being provided and there has been an assignment of support rights to the State. (b) No public assistance is being provided, but the local child support agency is providing Title IV-D services at the time the alternate arrangement is entered into.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110048		Enforcement	
Amended Proposed Judgment	If the local child support agency receives additional financial information within 30 days of service of the complaint and proposed judgment on the defendant and the additional information would result in a support order that is different from the amount in the proposed judgment, the local child support agency shall file a declaration setting forth the additional information and an amended proposed judgment. The time for the defendant to answer is extended an additional 30 days.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Proposed Judgment
Applicant	An individual who submits an application for Title IV-D services.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110056		General	Custodial Party, Title IV-D
Application	A written or electronic document provided by a local child support agency in which an individual requests support services and which is signed by the individual.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110060		General	

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A Arrearage	The unpaid child support payments for past periods owed by a parent who is obligated to pay by court order. The arrears or arrearage or arrearages include interest and are adjusted for the amount of any partial satisfactions of the judgment.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110064	Arrears, Court Ordered Arrearages, Past Due Support	Financial	
Assets	“Assets” include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) Cash on hand, money in checking or savings account, savings certificates, stocks or bonds. (b) All other property, real or personal, excluding the applicant's primary residence and one vehicle used for transportation.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110068		Financial	
Assigned Arrearages	Unpaid support that was due during past periods when public assistance was provided to the family or children of a child support obligor for which the right to receipt was assigned to the state as a condition of receiving assistance.				Financial	Conditionally Assigned Arrearages, Never Assigned Arrearages, Permanently Assigned Arrearages, Temporarily Assigned Arrearages
Assigned Collection	A collection which is used to recoup aid paid to the family.		MPP 12-101.3(a)(5)		Financial	
Assignee of Record	The one who receives the right to collect the money when an Assignment of Judgment is signed. In child support cases this is the local child support (IV-D) agency.		LCSA glossary		General	
Assignment of Support Rights	The legal procedure by which a person receiving public assistance agrees to turn over to the state or tribe any right to child support, including arrearages, paid by the noncustodial parent in exchange for receipt of a cash assistance grant and other benefits. States and tribes can then use a portion of said child support to defray or recoup the public assistance expenditure.		OCSE glossary	Assigned, Assignment; Support Rights	Case Management	
Assistance Period	The period of time in which a person, family or group receives or is determined eligible to receive public assistance.		LCSA Glossary		General	
Assistance Unit	An individual or group of related persons living in the same home who have been determined eligible for public assistance.			Family Assistance Unit; Family Budget Unit	General	

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A Assistance Unit Payee	The designated person of the assistance unit receiving the cash assistance check. The person to whom a check for welfare is issued.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Assistance Unit
Attestation	The act of witnessing an instrument in writing at the request of the party making the instrument and recording that fact on the instrument.		LCSA glossary	Attestation Statement	Legal	
Authorized Representative	An individual or a representative from an organization that has been authorized by a complainant to act on behalf of the complainant in any and all aspects of a state hearing.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110092		Customer Service	
Automated Locate Source	Any locate source in which data is maintained in an automated fashion, regardless of how it is accessed, and the data is updated constantly, i.e., daily, weekly, monthly, or quarterly.		MPP 12-101.3(a)(6)		Case Management	
Automatic Stay	<p>Definition: Immediately upon the filing of a voluntary petition under the Bankruptcy Code, generally, creditors (including child support agencies) are prohibited from taking legal action against the debtor or the property of the estate to enforce the debt while the debtor is in bankruptcy.</p> <p>Note: There are exceptions and it is possible to request "relief from stay" from the court to proceed with certain actions. Establishments and modifications of child support are not subject to the Automatic Stay.</p>		US Code Title 11, Section 362		Bankruptcy	
B Bankruptcy	<p>The formal condition of an insolvent person being declared bankrupt under law. The legal effect is to divert most of the debtor's assets and debts to the administration of a third person, sometimes called a "trustee in bankruptcy", from which outstanding debts are paid pro rata.</p> <p>Chapter 7- A section of the bankruptcy code under which a debtor's property is liquidated to pay his or her creditors and a debtor can obtain a discharge of personal debts through the bankruptcy court. Spousal and child support obligations cannot be discharged in Chapter 7 proceedings.</p> <p>Chapter 11- A section of the bankruptcy code under which the "reorganization" of companies and businesses can be made in order to allow the business to work out a plan to repay all or some of their debts.</p> <p>Chapter 13- A section of the bankruptcy code under which a debtor works out a plan to repay their debts through the bankruptcy court.</p>		US Code Title 11; DCSS Legal		Legal	
Bankruptcy Code	The Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1978 (as amended and codified in Title 11 of the United States Code) which governs bankruptcy cases filed on or after October 1, 1979.		US Code Title 11		Bankruptcy	

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B Bankruptcy Plan	This term is used in Chapter 11 cases and is also referred to as a "plan of reorganization" It is a detailed plan of action formulated by a debtor or its creditor to govern the debtor's rehabilitation, continued operation or liquidation, and payment of debts. It sets forth a list of debts and timetables to repay the debts. The bankruptcy court and creditors must approve the plan before it is implemented.		US Code Title 11, Chapter 11, Subchapter II, Section 1123	Plan of Reorganization	Bankruptcy	
Bankruptcy Schedule	Official forms used for listing the debtor's assets, liabilities, and all unsecured creditors. Note: This information is public record and may contain valuable information to assist in child support enforcement after the bankruptcy is completed.		Legal		Bankruptcy	
Bankruptcy Trustee	A third party, appointed by the bankruptcy court who administers and supervises the assets and debts of a person in bankruptcy.		DCSS Legal	Trustee	Enforcement	
Barnes Notices	Stemming from Barnes v. Anderson et al, requires all custodial parties to receive monthly notices of the amount of support payments collected and/or distributed each month.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 119184		Financial	
Billing Statement	The local child support agency notice sent to the child support obligor on a monthly basis outlining the amount of support owed. Reflects each account and balance with payment due date.		LCSA glossary		Financial	
Biological Father	The man who provided the paternal genes of a child. The biological father is sometimes referred to as the natural father.		OCSE glossary	Natural Father		
Buccal Swab	The painless, non-invasive DNA alternative to blood tests that account for more than 80% of samples collected in the determination of parentage.		Long Beach Genetics		Case Management	DNA Test, Genetic Testing
Burden of Proof	The duty of a party to produce the greater weight of evidence on a point at issue.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information Services	Bureau of Criminal Identification and Information Services provides information and technical assistance on information systems including wanted persons, stolen vehicles and violent offenders, as well as analysis of statistical data pertaining to the Criminal Justice System; and, maintains central files of missing and unidentified persons, sex and arson offender registrants and habitual sexual offenders.		oag.ca.gov/careers /descriptions/cjis			

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B Business Day	Any day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday as specified in Sections 6700 and 6701 of the Government Code.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110100		General	
C California Child Support Automation System	<p>The California automated single statewide system for the child support program. It consists of two components: the Child Support Enforcement (CSE) system and the State Disbursement Unit (SDU).</p> <p>CSE provides the central database for child support cases and the associated functionality to support enforcement activities in all LCSAs.</p> <p>SDU provides a centralized processing of child support collections and disbursements, including non-IV-D payments that are paid by wage withholding.</p>	CCSAS	Intro to the CCSAS CSE System and Training		CCSAS	Child Support Enforcement System
California Code of Regulations	The California Code of Regulations contains the text of the regulations that have been formally adopted by state agencies, reviewed and approved by the Office of Administrative Law, and filed with the Secretary of State.	CCR	California Code of Regulations		General	Regulations
California Department of Child Support Services	That department created within the California Health and Human Services Agency, to administer all services and perform all functions necessary to locate parents; establish paternity; establish, enforce, and modify support orders; and collect and distribute support in California.	DCSS	FC 17200		General	Local Child Support Agency
California Franchise Tax Board	The income taxing authority in California.	FTB	www.ftb.ca.gov	Franchise Tax Board	General	
California Health and Human Services Agency	The California Health and Human Services Agency administers state and federal programs for health care, social services, public assistance, job training and rehabilitation. Responsibility for administering the major programs, which provide direct services to millions of Californians, is divided among the Health and Human Services Agency's 15 boards and departments.	CHHS	chhs.ca.gov	IV-A Agency; IV-E Agency	General	
California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System	The computerized system at the State Department of Justice, used to obtain law enforcement information about an individual, directly from state and national files.	CLETS	courts.ca.gov		Case Management	

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C California Parent Locator Service	A unit within DCSS, that handles locate requests from the Federal Parent Locator Service (FPLS), other states' parent locator services and from local child support agencies. CPLS attempts to find the noncustodial parent's home and/or work addresses or assets by accessing the records of the following agencies: Employment Development Department, Franchise Tax Board, Department of Motor Vehicles, criminal justice agencies, public utilities and records of other state and local	CPLS	OCSE glossary	Parent Locator Service	Case Management	Federal Parent Locator Service, State Parent Locator Service
California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids	The public assistance program that implements the requirements set forth in the federal act Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA). Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), which replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC). Federally mandated changes in the new welfare program set time limits on cash assistance and include a requirement that recipients participate in a "Welfare to Work" plan. CalWORKs replaces all AFDC programs in California and is administered by the California Health and Human Services Agency (HHS).	CalWORKs	DCSS Legal	Welfare to Work	General	Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
CalWORKs Recipient	An individual who is receiving public assistance benefits under the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program, including KinGAP, established pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code, Chapter 2, commencing with Section 11200.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110112		General	California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
Caretaker	A relative other than a parent or an unrelated person with whom a child lives, who may or may not be receiving aid.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Custodial Party
Case	A noncustodial parent, whether mother, father, or alleged father, a custodial party, and a dependent child or children. The custodial party may be one of the child's parents, or other relative or caretaker including a foster parent. If both parents are absent and liable or potentially liable for the support of the child(ren), each parent is considered a separate case.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110116		Case Management	
Case Aid Status	The classification based on whether the family is currently receiving public assistance, or formerly received public assistance, or never received public assistance.				Financial	
Case Closure	Title IV-D services will no longer be provided. Case closure shall not affect a child support order or arrears that have accrued under the order.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110120		Case Management	

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C Case Construct	The structure of a child support case which typically includes a noncustodial parent, a custodial party, and a child or children.		FSD Letter 99-04; CSS Letter 10-10		Case Management	
Case ID	The unique identification number assigned to a case.		LCSA glossary	IV-D Case Number	General	
Case Initiation	The first step in the child support enforcement process; opening the case.		LCSA glossary	Intake	Case Management	
Case Notes	The chronological case history of events that have occurred on a case.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Case Participant	A participant in a child support case; a participant can participate in more than one case and in different capacities.		LCSA glossary	Participant	Case Management	
Case Record	A file containing all information and documents pertaining to the case, including all relevant facts, dates, and actions taken related to the case, and all contacts made and the results of those contacts. The case record is the property of the local child support agency.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110124		General	
Case Status	Case status means that the case is either currently receiving assistance, formerly received assistance, or never received assistance.		MPP 12- 101.3(c)(3)		Case Management	
Central Registry	A unit within each state responsible for receiving, screening, and distributing incoming interstate cases, and for responding to inquiries on incoming interstate cases.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110132	California Central Registry	Interstate	
Certified Mail Return Receipt	First Class mail that will not be delivered until someone at the address signs for it. Proof of delivery is returned to the sender by the post office. If the certified mail is marked "restricted delivery", it will only be delivered to the addressee (the person to whom it is addressed).		usps.com	Return Receipt	General	
Child Abuse	Any of the following: (a) A physical injury which is inflicted by other than accidental means on a child by another person. (b) The sexual abuse of a child or any act or omission proscribed by Penal Code, Section 273(a). (c) The neglect of a child or abuse in out-of-home care, as defined in Section 11165.3, Penal Code. (d) The willful cruelty or unjustifiable punishment of a child, as defined in Section 11165.3, Penal Code. (e) The unlawful corporal punishment or injury of a child, as defined in Section 11165.4, Penal Code. (f) The emotional or mental abuse of a child.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110140		Case Intake	Abuse

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C Child Care Expenses	Child care costs related to employment or to reasonably necessary education or training for employment skills.		FC 4062; Title 22, Division 13, Section 115520		Case Management	
Child Support	Amounts required to be paid under a judgment, decree, or order, whether temporary, final, or subject to modification, for the support and maintenance of a child or children, which provides for any or all of the following: monetary support, health insurance coverage, arrearages, and may include interest on delinquent child support obligations. Child support can be entered into voluntarily or ordered by a court or a properly empowered administrative agency, depending on state or tribal laws. Child support can involve different types of cases: IV-A Case, IV-D Case, IV-E Case, Non-IV-D Case, and Current Assistance IV-D (Child Support) Case.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110144; OCSE glossary	Support	General	IV-D Case, IV-A Case, IV-E Case, Non-IV-D Orders
Child Support Enforcement Agency	The agency that exists in every state or tribe to locate noncustodial parents or putative fathers; establish, enforce, and modify child support orders; and collect and distribute child support money. The agency is operated by state, tribal or local government according to the Child Support Enforcement program guidelines as set forth in Title IV-D of the Social Security Act. Also known as a "IV-D Agency."		OCSE glossary	Child Support Program; IV-D Agency	General	Local Child Support Agency
Child Support Enforcement Network	State-to-state telecommunications network, which transfers detailed information between States' automated child support enforcement systems.	CSENet	LCSA glossary		General	
Child Support Enforcement Program	The federal/state/local partnership established under Title IV-D of the Social Security Act to locate parents, establish paternity and child support orders, and collect on those orders.		OCSE glossary			
Child Support Enforcement System	The part of CCSAS that provides for the following functional responsibilities: member/participant data file of record and business rules for discrete identification of member and participants; business rules for selecting and aggregating data for purpose of payment allocation and distribution; disbursement instruction to SDU file of record; history of allocation and distribution file of record; and support order, order obligation, and standard account file of record.	CSE		Child Support Enforcement	CCSAS	

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C Child Support Order	Any court or administrative order for the payment of a set or determinable amount of support of a child by a parent, or a court order requiring a parent to provide for health insurance coverage for a child, or a court order requiring a parent to make payment of arrearages. "Child support order" includes any court order for spousal support or for medical support to the extent these obligations are to be enforced by a single state agency for child support under Title IV-D of the federal Social Security Act (commencing with section 651 to Title 42 of the United States Code). This amount or responsibility must be established by court order or administrative process, voluntary agreement (in states or tribes where such agreements are filed in the court or agency of the administrative process as an order and are legally enforceable) or other legal process. It may include a judgment for child support arrears.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110148; OCSE glossary	Child Support Judgment; Court Order; Judicial Order; Administrative Order	General	Child Support
Child Support Pass-Through	Provision by which at least \$50 from is disbursed from a child support payment collected on behalf of a public assistance recipient instead of keeping the funds to reimburse the state and disregard the payment in determining eligibility for assistance. Tribal programs also have a choice in adopting pass-through. Also known as child support "disregard".		OCSE glossary		Financial	Disregard
Child Support Recovery Act	This Act makes it a federal crime to willfully fail to pay a pass-due child support obligation for a child living in another state. The past-due obligation must be either greater than \$5000 or must have remained unpaid for more than one year.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Civil Contempt	A type of contempt of court which arises from a willful failure to comply with a court order. A civil contempt proceeding is coercive or remedial in nature. Punishment may be imposed in the form of a fine or imprisonment to compel the contemtor to comply with the court's order. Note: While this civil remedy is sometimes used to enforce a child support debt, this tool may be prohibited by the filing of a Bankruptcy. Relief from the Automatic Stay is needed.		CA Code of Civil Procedure, Section 1209.5	Contempt	Legal	
Claim of Exemption	The legal procedure for a party claiming an exemption after a levy is set forth to prevent exempt property from being seized. The party may do so by filing a claim and a copy with the levying officer within 10 days after a notice of levy on the property is served on the judgment debtor.		DCSS Legal		Legal	

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C Code of Federal Regulations	A codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the Executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government.	CFR	45 CFR, Chapter III		General	Regulations
Cohabitation	The fact or state of living together, esp. as partners in life, usually with the suggestion of sexual relations.		Black's Law Dictionary		General	
Collection	The amount of support payment received from a noncustodial parent or other person or agency on behalf of an obligor who is ordered by the court to pay support on behalf of the children or spouse.		MPP 12-405.2(c)(3)	Payments	Financial	
Commissioner	A person appointed by the Superior Court to act as a temporary judge to hear all Title IV-D child support cases, unless an objection is made by a party.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Community Based Organization	Private, public and non-profit organizations with whom the local child support agency can develop partnership in order to provide extensive and substantial contact with the community. Can include faith-based agencies.		LCSA glossary		General	
Complainant	A custodial party or noncustodial parent who has made a complaint to a local child support agency or requested a state hearing.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110156		Legal	Complaint
Complaint	The complainant's oral or written statement of an unresolved dispute and a request for resolution regarding any action or inaction of a local child support agency, or the Franchise Tax Board, concerning his/her child support case.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110160		Legal	Complainant
Complaint Investigator	Each local child support agency shall assign a complaint investigator to investigate complaints. The complaint investigator shall not be the individual whose action or inaction is the subject of a complaint, or an Ombudsperson.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 120103(a)	Complaint Coordinator	Customer Service	Ombudsperson, Complaint Resolution Process

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C Complaint Receipt Date	The date when a local child support agency initially receives a complaint from a complainant, or receives a transferred complaint from another county. (a) A written complaint shall be deemed to be received in one of the following ways: (1) If mailed, five (5) business days from the date the request is postmarked. If the postmark is illegible, the date the request is received and date stamped by a local child support agency. (2) If hand delivered, the date the request is received and date stamped by a local child support agency. (b) An oral complaint shall be deemed to be received as of the date a complainant speaks to a local child support agency representative, asks to file a complaint, and provides the information that is the basis of a complaint to a local child support agency.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110164		Customer Service	
Complaint Resolution Process	The actions required by the local child support agency to resolve complaints as specified in CCR Chapter 10, Article 2 of Title 22, Division 13.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110168		Customer Service	Complaint
Compliance	Compliance within the Child Support Program context refers to Local Child Support Agencies (LCSAs) adhering to and/or meeting State and Federal mandated requirements. These requirements govern identified actions LCSAs must take and set specific timeframes for those various actions when managing child support cases. Adherence to these requirements is generally expressed in terms of the quantity or quality of effort, required timeframe, and/or other mandatory measurable expectation and is monitored by the California Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) and by the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement. The results of the compliance monitoring are used as one factor in determining a state's child support funding allocation.		FC 17702; 45 CFR 308		General	Performance Measures, Noncompliance
Compliance Review	The review and determination of child support procedures, policies and fiscal records to ensure compliance with State and Federal regulations.		FC 17702, 45 CFR 308, LCSA glossary	Performance Review	General	
Compromise and Release	Option an injured worker may have to settle their claim with one lump sum payment. If the claim is settled by way of Compromise and Release, they will receive one lump sum payment that covers all medical, disability and income issues. The Workers' Compensation insurance company and the employer are then completely released from future liability.		CCR, Title 8, Sec 10878		General	

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C Compromise of Assigned Arrearages	An agreement to reduce arrearages, including interest, owed to the state in cases where separation or desertion of both parents from a child resulted in aid being granted for the child in the form of Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) payments or California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids Act (CalWORKs) payments inclusive of payments for Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment Program (KinGAP).	COAP	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110184		Financial	
Conditionally Assigned Arrearages	Arrearages that were temporarily assigned while a family received aid, but the temporary assignment has ended because the family is no longer receiving aid. These arrears are normally unassigned and paid to the family if collected from a source other than IRS tax intercept. However, when collections are received from IRS tax intercept these arrears are conditionally assigned and will be used to reimburse aid paid.		MPP 12-405 (c)(2)		Financial	
Consortium	In relation to child support, two or more temporary alliances engaged in the common business practice of enforcement of support pending implementation of the California Child Support Automated System (CCSAS).		LCSA glossary		General	
Consumer Credit Protection Act	Federal law that limits the amount that may be withheld from earnings to satisfy child support obligations and other garnishments. State or tribal law may further limit the amount that can be withheld from a person's paycheck.	CCPA	OCSE glossary		General	
Contingency Fund	A fund used by the local child support agency to pay for items immediately in cases where there will be a later reimbursement to fund from another source.		LCSA glossary		Financial	
Continuing Exclusive Jurisdiction	The authority of a tribunal to modify a support order because at least one of the parties or the child who is the subject of the order remains a resident of the state issuing the order and written consent of the parties to confer continuing jurisdiction on another state has not been filed. The authority that only one tribunal has to modify an order for support.	CEJ	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110192 OCSE Glossary		Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
Controlling Order	The one support order issued in a judicial or administrative proceeding that governs the amount, duration, and other terms of a child support obligation prospectively. If multiple orders have been issued, only a tribunal can determine which order is the controlling order. In cases involving multiple orders issued prior to the enactment of UIFSA, UIFSA provides rules for determining the controlling order, the one order to be prospectively enforced. UIFSA does not apply to tribes.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110196; OCSE Glossary	Controlling Order Determination	Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
C Cooperation	As a condition of TANF eligibility whereby the recipient is required to cooperate with the child support agency in identifying and locating the noncustodial parent, establishing paternity, and/or obtaining child support payments.				General	
Corrective Action Plan	A written plan submitted to a controlling entity upon a person's, group or county's failure to meet overall compliance requirements.		LCSA glossary		General	
Cost of Living Adjustment	Modification of the amount of a support obligation based on the economy's increasing or decreasing cost of the necessities of life, such as food, shelter, and clothing.	COLA	OCSE glossary		General	
County	One of fifty-eight administrative subdivisions in the state of California.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110204		General	
County Auditor and/or Controller	The Auditor-Controller's Office provides a broad range of financial accounting and auditing services to all County Departments, agencies, and districts whose funds are kept in the County Treasury. Responsible for recording all receipts and disbursements of County monies such as child support and for maintaining budgetary control of various funds.		Gov Code 26880, 26900		General	
County Clerk	The elected official in each county who is responsible for, among other things, taking charge of and maintaining all documents and records filed with the Superior Court or a variation which may include Superior, Municipal and Juvenile Court functions. The County Clerk shall also act as clerk of the board of supervisors; elections official or other duties as required by the Elections Code and shall distribute marriage license information.		Govt. Code 26801-26810		General	
County Recorder	The County Recorder is a county official appointed to record and maintain property records (including deeds, mortgages and liens) and vital statistics records.		LCSA glossary		General	
County Welfare Department	The county department or departments which administer aid programs.		MPP 12-101.3 (c)(6)	IV-A Agency; IV-E Agency		California Health and Human Services Agency, Welfare Department
County Welfare Worker	A county worker providing social services in child welfare programs or a county worker determining eligibility for assistance programs.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110208	Welfare Worker	General	Eligibility Worker, Social Worker
Court Case Number	The number assigned by the court to a court action.		LCSA glossary		General	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
C Court Clerk	Officer of the court who files pleadings, motions, judgments, etc., issues process and keeps records of court proceedings.		DCSS Legal	Clerk of the Court	General	
Credit Reporting Agencies	Any entity which regularly engages in the practice of assembling or evaluating consumer credit information or other information on consumers for the purpose of furnishing consumer reports to third parties.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110212	Consumer Credit Agencies	Enforcement	
Criminal Non-Support	Criminal charges that can be brought when a noncustodial parent willfully fails to pay child support. There are criminal offenses for failure to support at both the state and federal levels. Federal actions require some interstate activity.		OCSE glossary		Enforcement	
Cross Reference Case	A companion case involving a noncustodial parent or custodial party. Usually consisting of other children by either parent with a different mother or father.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
CS 1257	The Federal Fiscal Monthly Data and Accounts Receivable Report		FC 17602		General	
CS 34	Monthly report of Collections and Distributions replacing CS 800, 803 and 820		FC 17602		General	
CS 35	Supplemental to Monthly Report of Collection and Distributions.		FC 17602		General	
Current Assistance IV-D (Child Support) Case	A case where the children are: (1) recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) under Title IV-A of the Social Security Act or (2) entitled to Foster Care maintenance payments under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. In addition, the children's support rights have been assigned by a caretaker relative to a state or tribe, and a referral to the state or tribal child support agency has been made. Also a TANF IV-D Case or Foster Care IV-D Case.		OCSE glossary		Financial	
Current Support Payment	The amount of support collected which meets the court-ordered support obligation for the current month.		MPP 12-101 .3 (c)(7)		Financial	Child Support, Family Support, Medical Support, Spousal Support
Custodial Party	The person having primary care, custody and control over the child(ren) and who is/are receiving or has applied to receive services under Title IV-D of the Federal Social Security Act (commencing with Section 651 of Title 42 of the United States Code).	CP	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110224	Custodial Parent	General	Obligee, Caretaker

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

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C Custody	Means the charge and control of a child including the right to make all major decisions such as education, religious upbringing, training, health and welfare.		DCSS Legal	Legal Custody; Joint Custody	General	Custodial party, Split Custody
Custody Determination	Judgment, decree or order of a court providing for the custody of a child.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110228	Custody Order	General	
Customer	Custodial parties, noncustodial parents, employers, and the public who make inquiries or raise questions about child support services.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110232	External Customer; Internal Customer; Client	General	
CW 2.1(Q)	Form known as a Child Support Questionnaire or Absent Parent Questionnaire. It is required by the county welfare department to be completed by the CalWORKs recipient prior to aid being granted. The information requested includes the noncustodial parent's location, employment, description, assets, court order information, child support payment information, child(ren)'s name, social security number and date of birth of the noncustodial parent.		cdss.ca.gov	Child Support Questionnaire; Absent Parent Questionnaire	Case Management	Assignment of Support Rights
CW 371	Transmittal used for communication between the local county welfare department and the local child support agency which provides child support information.		cdss.ca.gov		Case Management	
D Date of Collection	The definition of legal date of collection was changed to date of receipt by the State Disbursement Unit (SDU) when the LCSAs transition to the SDU.	DOC	CSS Letter 05-26	Legal Date of Collection	Financial	Date of Receipt, State Disbursement Unit
Date of Injury	In a workers compensation claim, this is the date an employee/worker was injured.	DOI	LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Date of Receipt	The Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 302.51(4)(i) and (ii), requires the use of the date of receipt by the SDU for non-employer payments and allows states the option of using date of receipt for employer withheld payments. DCSS elected to use date of receipt as the legal date of collection for all payments, including employer withheld payments.	DOR	CFR 302.51(4)(i) and (ii), CSS Letter 05-26	Legal Date of Receipt, Legal Date of Collection	Financial	Date of Collection, State Disbursement Unit
Day	"Day" means calendar day unless otherwise specified.		Title 22, Division, 13, Section 110244		General	
Deadbeat Parents Punishment Act of 1998	A federal law that imposes criminal penalties on parents who repeatedly fail to support children living in another state or who flee across state lines to avoid supporting them; the Deadbeat Parents Punishment Act established felony violations for the willful failure to pay legal child support obligations in interstate cases.	DPPA	OCSE glossary		Enforcement	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
D Dear Colleague Letter	Letter sent out to those in the child support community, and interested partners, that conveys information on child support enforcement program activities.	DCL	OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Debt Check	A program developed by the Treasury Department's Financial Management Service that allows agencies and outside lenders to determine whether applicants for federal loans, loan insurance or loan guarantees owe delinquent child support or non-tax debt to the federal government. Federal agencies are required to deny loans, loan insurance, or loan guarantees to individuals who owe delinquent child support if those debts have been referred to the Treasury Offset Program (TOP) for administrative offset.		OCSE glossary		Enforcement	
Default	The failure of a defendant to file an answer or appear in a civil case within the prescribed time after having been properly served with a summons and complaint. The tribunal hearing the case can enter an order based on information presented without any challenge if the responding party does not answer the claim or appear in court as requested. This is called a default order.		OCSE glossary		Legal	Default Judgment
Default Judgment	Decision made by the tribunal when the defendant fails to respond. Per Family Code Section 17430 (a), a judgment shall be entered without hearing, without the presentation of any other evidence or further notice to the defendant, upon the filing of proof of service by the local child support agency evidencing that more than 30 days have passed since the simplified summons and complaint, proposed judgment, blank answer, blank income and expense declaration, and all notices required by this division were served on the defendant.		OCSE glossary; FC 17430 (a)	Default Order	Legal	Default, Proposed Judgment
Defendant	The person against whom a civil or criminal proceeding is begun.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Defense Finance and Accounting Services	The agency responsible for the payment of active duty and reserve military personnel.	DFAS	DFAS Web site		General	
Delinquency	"Child support delinquency" means an arrearage or otherwise past due amount that accrues when an obligor fails to make any court-ordered support payment when due, which is more than 60 days past due, and the aggregate amount of which exceeds one hundred dollars (\$100).		FC 17500		General	

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D Demand Letter	A letter filed with the escrow company demanding that the Judgment Debtor (Defendant) against whom a Lien has been filed, pay a certain amount of money before a Release of Lien can be filed.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Lien, Release of Lien
Department	This means the California Department of Child Support Services.	DCSS	Title 22, Section 13, Section 110248		General	California Department of Child Support Services
Department of Health and Human Services	The Federal government's principal agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves.	DHHS or HHS	hhs.gov		General	
Dependency Hearing	A hearing held in juvenile court at which the court is asked to take custody of the child from the parents usually because of neglect, abuse, or inability of the parent(s) to care for the child. Dependency hearings are brought under Welfare and Institutions Code section 300. In some cases, the child(ren) are allowed to return home under court supervision.		LCSA glossary	Foster Care Placement	Legal	Juvenile Court
Dependent	A person who is under the care of a parent, relative or other caretaker and cannot live on his/her own. Most children who are eligible to receive child support must be dependents. The child ceases to be a dependent when he or she reaches the "age of emancipation," as determined by state or tribal law, but may remain eligible for child support for a period after he or she is emancipated or reaches the "age of majority" depending on the state's or tribe's provisions.		OCSE glossary		General	
Direct Income Withholding	An income withholding order that has been issued in one state and sent to an employer in another state without filing a petition or comparable pleading, or registering the order with the tribunal in the other state.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110268		Interstate	Income Withholding, Income Withholding Order
Direct Payment	A payment which was sent directly to the custodial parent (party) rather than to the local child support agency.		MPP 12-101.3 (d)(5)		Financial	
Director	The Director of the California Department of Child Support Services.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110220		General	
Disbursed	"Disbursed" or "disbursement" means the dispensing or paying out, of a collection.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110276	Disbursement	Financial	

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D Discharge	With regard to a bankruptcy proceeding, the release of a debtor from all of his debts which are provable in bankruptcy, except such as are excepted by the Bankruptcy Code. Child support obligations are not dischargeable in bankruptcy, although the bankruptcy may affect the manner in which these obligations can be collected.		DCSS Legal		Legal	Bankruptcy
Disestablishment	Procedure by which a tribunal can nullify an order or a determination of paternity generally.		OCSE glossary			
Dismissal	The act of voluntarily terminating a lawsuit, a cause of action or motion by one of the parties or a judge's ruling that a lawsuit is terminated.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Disposable Earnings	Income that is subject to withholding left after making mandatory deductions for taxes including State, federal, local, Social Security, Medicare taxes and union dues, along with deductions for disability insurance and payments to public employees' retirement systems, provided that the deductions are required as a condition of employment.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110280	Disposable Income	General	
Disposition	The date on which a support order is officially established, recorded, or the action is dismissed. For purposes of expedited process time frames, a case disposition can occur when: The judge, commissioner, or referee announces the disposition in open court, or, the judge, commissioner, or referee signs the disposition after taking the case under consideration; or, the judge signs the disposition recommended by a commissioner or referee, or signs the disposition modified by the court, according to Code of Civil Procedure Sections 256 or 640.1.		MPP 12-101.3 (d)(7)		Legal	Adjudication
Disregard	Up to the first \$50 of a current support collection made on behalf of a current assistance case receiving CalWORKs aid.		MPP 12-101.3 (d)(8)		Financial	Child Support Pass Through
Dissolution	A judgment ending a marriage which may or may not include provisions for child support, division of property, etc.		LCSA glossary	Divorce	Legal	

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D Distributed	“Distributed” or “distribution” means the allocation of child support collected to the various types of debt (e.g., monthly support obligations, arrears, ordered arrears) within a child support case as specified in 45 CFR 302.51 (45 CFR 309.115 for procedures governing tribal child support programs); the process of how the total child support payment amount is divided between all those owed under the support orders, including reimbursement for public assistance.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110288; OCSE glossary	Distribution; Allocation	Financial	
DNA Testing	The analysis of human cells to facilitate the establishment of paternity.		OCSE glossary	Genetic Testing		Genetic Testing, Buccal Swab, Biological Father, Paternity
Domestic Violence	Abuse perpetrated against any of the following persons: (a) A spouse or former spouse. (b) A cohabitant or former cohabitant, as defined in Section 6209, Family Code. (c) A person with whom the individual who perpetrated the act of domestic violence is having or has had a dating or engagement relationship. (d) A person with whom the individual who perpetrated the act of domestic violence has had a child, where the presumption applies that the male parent is the father of the child of the female parent under the Uniform Parentage Act (Part 3 of Division 12 commencing with Section 7600) of the Family Code. (e) A child of a party or a child who is the subject of an action under the Uniform Parentage Act, where the presumption applies that the male parent is the father of the child to be protected. (f) Any other person related by blood or marriage, such as grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles, and children.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110292		Case Intake	Abuse, Child Abuse, Family Violence
Due Process	The principle of fairness in legal proceedings so that a person has a right to know what action is being taken and has an opportunity to be heard.		OCSE glossary		Legal	

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E Earnings	Any of the following to the extent that they are subject to an income withholding order for support: a) Wages, salary, bonuses, vacation pay, retirement pay, and commissions. b) Payments for services of independent contractors, dividends, rents, royalties, residuals, patent rights or mineral or other natural resource rights. c) Payments or credits due or becoming due as a result of a written or oral contract for services or sales whether denominated as wages, salary, commission, bonus, or otherwise. d) Payments due for workers' compensation temporary disability benefits. e) Payments due from a disability or health insurance policy or program. f) Any other payments or credits due or becoming due, regardless of the source.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110296	Income	General	
Electronic Disbursement	Process by which a child support payment is electronically transmitted to an account. The most common forms of electronic disbursement are direct deposit to a bank or other financial institution or through an electronic payment card (stored value card). The process when child support payment or any other payments are sent to banks accounts by computer systems.		OCSE glossary		Financial	Electronic Funds Transfer
Electronic Funds Transfer	Process by which money is transmitted electronically from one bank account to another.	EFT	OCSE glossary		Financial	
Eligibility Worker	A case worker at the IV-A (human services) agency.	EW	LCSA glossary		General	Social Worker, Welfare Worker
Emancipation	“Emancipation,” “Emancipate,” and “Emancipated” mean the age or circumstance in which a child is no longer entitled to current child support from a parent because of any one of the following: (a) The child meets the conditions set forth in Family Code Section 3901. (b) The judgment, decree or order directing the child support was terminated by order of the court. (c) The judgment, decree or order directing the child support was terminated under the law of the issuing state. (d) The child support ordered pursuant to Family Code Section 3587 has ceased or was terminated. (e) The child meets at least one of the conditions set forth in Family Code Section 7002.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110307	Emancipate, Emancipated, Date of Emancipation, Age of Majority	General	Majority
Emancipation - Duty of Support	The duty of support imposed by Section 3900 continues as to an unmarried child who has attained the age of 18 years, is a full-time high school student, and who is not self-supporting, until the time the child completes the 12th grade or attains the age of 19 years, whichever occurs first.		Family Code, Section 3901	Duty of Support		

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E Employer	All of the following: (a) A person for whom an individual performs services as an employee, as defined in Section 706.011, Code of Civil Procedure. (b) The United States government and any public entity as defined in Section 811.2, Government Code. (c) Any person or entity paying the following types of earnings: (1) Wages, salary, bonus, money and benefits described in Sections 704.110, 704.113 and 704.115 of the Code of Civil Procedure. (2) Payments due for services of independent contractors, interest, dividends, rents, royalties, residuals, patent rights, or mineral or other nature resource rights. (3) Payments or credits due or becoming due as a result of written or oral contracts for services or sales whether denominated as wages, salary, commission, bonus, or otherwise. (4) Payments due for workers' compensation temporary disability benefits. (5) Payments due as a result of disability from benefits described in Section 704.130 of the Code of Civil Procedure. (6) Any other payments or credits due or becoming due, regardless of source.		Title 22 Division 13, Section 110311		General	
Employment Retirement Income Security Act of 1974	The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 is a federal law that sets minimum standards for most voluntarily established pension and health plans in private industry to provide protection for individuals in these plans.	ERISA	Dept. of Labor www.dol.gov		General	
Employment-Related Group Health Insurance	Private group health insurance coverage provided through employment or membership in a union, trade association, or other organization.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110315		Enforcement	Health Insurance Coverage
Endorsed Filed Copy	Stamped with the stamp of the agency in which the original document has been filed (the County Clerk's office, for example). The endorsement verifies that the original was, in fact, filed.		LCSA glossary		Legal	
Enforcement	Actions taken to obtain payment of a child, family, medical, or spousal support obligation contained in a child support order.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110319		General	
Enumeration and Verification Service	Service used to verify and correct Social Security Numbers (SSNs), and identify multiple SSNs, of participants in child support cases. Operated by the Social Security Administration (SSA).	EVS	AT-92-07		Case Management	
Establishment	The process of legally determining paternity and/or obtaining a court or administrative order to put a child support obligation in place.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110323		General	
Excess	The amount of assigned support that exceeds the unreimbursed assistance pool (UAP).		MPP 12-101.3(e)(2)		Financial	

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E Exclusion	A term used to denote the exclusion of a putative parent as the result of a genetic test.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Putative Father, Genetic Testing
Expedited Process	A quasi-judicial child support hearing process established under a Plan of Cooperation or established by operation of law that meets specified processing times.		MPP 12-101.3 (e)(2)		Case Management	
External Locate Source	A source of locate information that is outside the Child Support Enforcement (CSE) system.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	
F Fair Credit Reporting Act	The law lists the instances when a consumer reporting agency may furnish an individual's consumer report. (Public Law 91-508 Section 604. Permissible Purposes of Reports)	FCRA	15 U.S.C. § 1681 ("FCRA")		General	
Fair Hearing	A hearing conducted by a hearing officer in the Health and Human Services Department which is requested by a welfare recipient when the recipient does not agree with a decision made by the county welfare department or the local child support agency affecting their eligibility. The purpose of the fair hearing is to take evidence and determine if a welfare recipient was correctly denied aid. One of the reasons for removing a welfare recipient from the CalWORKs program is the recipient's lack of cooperation with the local child support agency.		LCSA glossary		General	Cooperation, Non-Cooperation
Family Law Facilitator	An adjunct to the court who is an attorney that provides educational services concerning the process of establishing or modifying support orders, completing forms, preparing income and expense forms, declarations of paternity, and support schedules based on statutory guidelines. There are Family Law Facilitators in each California County.		Child Support Handbook		General	
Family Support	An agreement between the parents, or a court order or judgment, that combines child support and spousal support without designating the specific amount to be paid for each.				General	
Family Support Act of 1988	Law passed in 1988, with two major mandates: Immediate Wage Withholding, unless courts find that there is good cause to not require such withholding, or there is a written agreement between both parties requiring an alternative arrangement; and Guidelines for Child Support Award Amounts, which requires States to use guidelines to determine the amount of support for each family, unless they are rebutted by a written finding that applying the guidelines would be inappropriate to the case.	FSA	OCSE glossary	Federal/Family Support Act	Legal	

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F Family Violence	Domestic violence as defined in CCR 22 Section 110292, or child abuse as defined in CCR 22 Section 110140.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110339	Domestic Violence	Case Intake	Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, Abuse
Family Violence Indicator	The designation of a party in a case or order by a state that indicates that party is associated with an act of child abuse or domestic violence. This indicator resides in the Federal Case Registry and is used to prevent disclosure of the location of a party and/or a child believed by a state to be at risk of family violence.	FVI	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110343	Disclosure Prohibited Notice	Case Intake	Nondisclosure Finding, Domestic Violence, Child Abuse, Abuse
Federal Case Registry	A national database of information on individuals in all Title IV-D cases, and on all non-Title IV-D orders entered or modified on or after October 1, 1998. The Federal Case Registry is part of the expanded Federal Parent Locator Service, which is maintained by the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement. The FCR receives case information on a daily basis from the State Case Registry located in every state, and proactively matches it with previous submissions to the FCR and with employment information contained in the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH). Any successful matches are returned to the appropriate state(s) for processing.	FCR	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110347; OCSE glossary		General	
Federal Employer Identification Number	Unique nine-digit number assigned to all employers by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), which must be used in numerous transactions, including submitting data and responding to requests relevant to child support.	FEIN	OCSE glossary; irs.gov	Employer Identification Number	Case Management	
Federal Financial Participation	The portion of a state's child support expenditures that are paid by a federal government match. Most child support costs are matched two to one. In other words, the federal share of most child support costs is 66 percent.	FFP	OCSE glossary		General	
Federal Foster Care	The 24-hour out-of-home- care provided to children whose own families are unable or unwilling to care for them, and who are in need of temporary or long-term substitute parenting funded under Title IV-E with federal funds.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110383		General	Foster Care
Federal Offset Program	The program that provides several enforcement tools to collect past-due child support from noncustodial parents, including federal income tax refund and administrative offset, Passport Denial Program, MSFIDM and Debt Check.	FOP	OCSE glossary		Enforcement	Intercept, Federal Tax Refund Offset Program

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F Federal Parent Locator Service	A computerized national location network operated by the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). FPLS obtains address and employer information, as well as data on child support cases in every State, compares them and returns matches to the appropriate States. FPLS includes the Federal Case Registry (FCR) and the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH). This helps state and local child support agencies locate noncustodial parents and putative fathers for the purposes of establishing custody and visitation rights, establishing and enforcing child support obligations, investigating parental kidnapping, and processing adoption or foster care cases. The expanded FPLS includes the Federal Case Registry (FCR) and the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH).	FPLS	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110355; OCSE Glossary	Parent Locator Service	General	
Federal Tax Refund Offset Program	The process that collects past-due child support amounts from noncustodial parents through interception of their federal income tax refunds.		OCSE glossary	Federal Income Tax Refund Offset Program	Case Management	Intercept
Final Decision	The final determination by the State DCSS Director or the Director's designee based on a proposed decision for all state hearings within 20 days from the date of the close of record.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 120217 (b)		Customer Service	
Financial Institution Data Match	A process whereby information on accounts held by banks, savings and loan companies, brokerage houses, and other financial institutions is matched against child support obligors who owe past-due support (arrearages).	FIDM	OCSE glossary		General	Multistate Financial Institution Data Match, Single State Financial Data Match
Financial Management Service	Acting as the U.S. government's money manager, Financial Management Service (FMS) provides centralized payment, collection, and reporting services, and using a centralized process, collects delinquent debts (e.g., federal student, mortgage, or small business loans; federal salary or benefit overpayments; fines or penalties assessed by federal agencies) owed to the U.S. government, as well as income tax debts owed to states and past-due child support payments owed to custodial parents.	FMS	OCSE glossary		Financial	
Finding	A formal determination by a court or administrative process that has legal standing.		OCSE glossary	Finding and Order After Hearing	Legal	
Fiscal Year	An accounting period of 12 months. Federal: October 1 through September 30. State: July 1 through June 30.	FY	DCSS Legal		General	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
F Foreign Order	An order issued by a tribunal of a jurisdiction outside of California.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110375		Interstate	
Foreign Reciprocating Country	A foreign country with which the United States has signed a bilateral agreement ensuring reciprocity in child support enforcement.		OCSE glossary		Interstate	
Former Assistance Case	A case where the children formerly received Title IV-A (AFDC or TANF) or Title IV-E foster care services.		OCSE glossary	Former Assistance IV-D Case	Financial	
Foster Care	The 24 hour out-of-home care provided to children whose own families are unable or unwilling to care for them, and who are in need of temporary or long-term substitute parenting funded under Title IV-E with federal, state, and county funds.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110383	Foster Care Placement	General	IV-E Case
Fraud Referral	A referral made to the county welfare department notifying the agency that welfare fraud is suspected.		LCSA glossary		General	Welfare Fraud
Fraudulent Transfer	A transfer made or obligation incurred by a debtor with actual intent to hinder, delay, or defraud any creditor of the debtor, without receiving a reasonably equivalent value in exchange for the transfer or obligation.		California Civil Code, Section 3439.04 and 3439.05			
Full Faith and Credit	Doctrine under which a state or tribe must honor an order or judgment entered in another state or tribe and enforce it as if it were an order within its own territory, but may not modify the order unless properly petitioned to do so. This principle was specifically applied to child support orders in federal law that took effect in 1994, under the Full Faith and Credit for Child Support Orders Act (FFCCSOA).		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Full Faith and Credit for Child Support Orders Act

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
F Full Faith and Credit for Child Support Orders Act	<p>FFCCSOA requires states and federally funded tribal child support agencies to enforce child support orders made by other states or tribes if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •the issuing state or tribe's tribunal had subject-matter jurisdiction to hear and resolve the matter and enter an order; •the issuing state or tribe's tribunal had personal jurisdiction over the parties; and •the parties were given reasonable notice and the opportunity to be heard. <p>FFCCSOA also sets limits on state and tribal authority to modify another state or tribe's child support orders in instances when the state or tribe seeking to modify the order has jurisdiction to do so and the tribunal that originally issued the order no longer has continuing exclusive jurisdiction over the order either because the child and the parties to the case are no longer residents of the issuing state, or the parties to the case have filed written consent to transfer continuing exclusive jurisdiction to the tribunal seeking to make the modification.</p>	FFCCSOA	OCSE glossary		Interstate	Full Faith and Credit
Futures	Collections received from the noncustodial parent that are in excess of the current support obligations and no arrearages exist.		MPP 12-405 (f)(3)	Prepayment; Future Payment	Financial	
G Garnishment	A legal proceeding under which part of a person's wages or assets is withheld for payment of a debt. This term is usually used to specify that an income or wage withholding is involuntary.		OCSE glossary		Legal	Income Withholding; Wage Withholding; Direct Income Withholding; Immediate Wage Withholding.

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
G General Appearance	A general appearance can be the filing of a document with the court (in our case, a response, answer or Responsive Declaration, or even their own motion for relief other than an attack on jurisdiction) or personal appearance at a hearing where the defendant/respondent does not challenge the jurisdiction of the court. The defendant must file a motion to quash the summons or dismiss the action either before or at the same time it files its document or, in the case of the appearance (except for appearances due to ex parte motion--appearance on the merits in an ex parte matter does not constitute a general appearance), must orally make their motion before the court proceeds on the merits of the matter before the court. The defendant must object to jurisdiction within the time he/she has to respond to the Summons (i.e., 30 days).		Legal		Interstate	
General Assistance	Aid to destitute adults provided through Social Services Department, funded totally by county tax dollars.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Genetic Testing	Analysis of inherited factors to determine fatherhood or paternity		OCSE glossary	Blood Test; DNA Testing; Genetic Factors; Inclusion Probability	Case Management	Buccal Swab, Biological Father, Legal Father, Paternity, Putative Father, DNA Testing
Good Cause	A legal reason for which a Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipient is excused from cooperating with the child support enforcement process, such as past physical harm by the child's noncustodial parent. It also includes situations where rape or incest resulted in the conception of the child and situations where the mother is considering placing the child for adoption.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; IV-A Case
Grant	Monthly amount of cash assistance provided to a family receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Gross Monthly Income	Earnings before any mandatory deductions .		LCSA glossary		General	
Guardian	The legal guardian of the child, who assumed care and control of the child while the child was in the guardian's control, and who is not a biological or adoptive parent.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110402		General	Caretaker, Relative Caregiver
Guardian ad Litem	A court-appointed adult who represents a minor child or legally incompetent person.		LCSA glossary		Legal	

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G Guideline - Child Support	A standard method for setting child support obligations, using a mathematical formula and based on the income of one or both parent(s) and other factors determined by state or tribal law. The Family Support Act of 1988 requires states to use guidelines to determine the amount of support for each family, unless they are rebutted by a written finding that applying the guidelines would be inappropriate to the case.		OCSE glossary	Guidelines; Support Calculations Program	Case Management	Income, Disposable Earnings, Imputed Income
H Hardship	Circumstances that create extreme financial hardship for which the court may allow an income deduction such as extraordinary health expenses, uninsured catastrophic losses and living expenses of other natural or adopted children who reside with the parent		FC 4071	Low Income Adjustment	Case Management	
Health Care Provider	Person or business that make available services offered by the medical and allied health professions.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Health Insurance Coverage	The provisions for the delivery of both of the following: a) Health care services by a fee for service, health maintenance organization, preferred provider organization, or any other type of health care delivery system under which medical services could be provided to a dependent child of an obligor. b) Vision care and dental care services whether the vision care or dental care coverage is included in health insurance coverage or is issued as a separate policy or plan.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110410	Medical Insurance; Medical Coverage	General	Medical Support
Health Insurance Coverage at a Reasonable Cost	Employment-related group health insurance or other group health insurance, regardless of the service delivery mechanism.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110414	Reasonable Cost	General	Employment-Related Group Health Insurance
Hearing	A proceeding of relative formality where definite issues of fact or law is tried, witnesses are heard and evidence is taken to determine issues of fact and to render a decision on the basis of that evidence.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Hearing Date	The date of the state hearing which shall be deemed to include the period from the opening of the record to the close of the record, including any continuances that may have been granted.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110418		General	

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H Home State	The state in which a child lived with a parent or a person acting as a parent for at least six consecutive months immediately preceding the time filing of a petition or comparable pleading for support, and if a child is less than six months old, the state in which the child lived from birth with a parent or person acting as a parent. A period of temporary absence of the child from the parent or person acting as the parent shall be counted as part of the six-month or other period.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110422		Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
I Immediate Wage Withholding	An automatic deduction from income that starts as soon as the order for support is established and an income withholding order/notice is received and implemented by the noncustodial parent's employer.		OCSE glossary		Legal	Income Withholding; Wage Withholding; Direct Income Withholding
Improperly Withheld	Any support amount withheld by an employer which is greater than the amount specified in the income withholding order issued pursuant to Article 1, Subchapter 6.1, Section 116100.				Financial	
Imputed Income	Income that may be attributed to an individual who refuses to obtain employment, chooses not to work for personal reasons, or chooses to earn less than is typical for someone with the individual's training, education and skill. An individual cannot be forced to work, but the court or decision-maker can attribute certain income levels to a person based on the person's education or training, skill, and work history. Some states consider assets, for example, if the obligor is self-employed or owns real estate. This also may be the amount of income the court or administrator determines that an obligor is capable of earning if he or she does not appear at a hearing after proper service. Some will also attribute income to a custodial parent who chooses to remain unemployed.		OCSE glossary		Case Management; Guideline Calculator	Guideline – Child Support
Incentives	A percentage of collections paid by one political subdivision to another to reimburse the latter for their collection effort on behalf of the former. Used to fund the County's share of the program.		LCSA glossary		General	Program Improvement Plan
Income	For child support purposes, any periodic form of payment to an individual, regardless of source, including wages, salaries, commissions, bonuses, worker's compensation, disability, pension, or retirement program payments and interest; remuneration for work performed or any payment made in lieu of remuneration for worked performed, such as social security benefits or retirement pay.		OCSE glossary	Earnings	Case Management	Guideline – Child Support

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I Income and Eligibility Verification System	A system that allows the Child Support department to access information from EDD, FTB, and SSA on any individual requested by the department.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Income Withholding	An order that requires an employer to withhold support from a noncustodial parent's wages and transfer that withholding to the appropriate agency (the Centralized Collection Unit, the State Disbursement Unit or tribal child support agency.) Sometimes referred to as a wage withholding or garnishment.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Wage Withholding; Direct Income Withholding; Immediate Wage Withholding; Garnishment
Income Withholding Order	"Income withholding order," "assignment order," "assignment order for support," "earnings assignment order," and "wage assignment order" means a court order or administrative notice for income withholding, or legal process directed to an obligor's employer, or other debtor of the obligor, to withhold from the income of the obligor an amount owed for support. Any income withholding order or assignment order, or assignment order for support, or earnings assignment order, or wage assignment order issued by a local child support agency shall be issued on the federal form "Order/Notice to Withhold Income for Child Support", OMB Control No. 0970-0154 as adopted by the California Judicial Council.	IWO	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110430	Assignment Order; Assignment Order for Support; Earnings Assignment Order; Earnings Withholding Order; Wage Assignment Order	General	Income Withholding
Independent Contractor Registry	A database maintained by the Employment Development Department which contains information regarding independent contractors reported in California, as required in Section 1088.8, Unemployment Insurance Code.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110434		Enforcement	
Indian Tribe	Any Indian or Alaskan Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, or community the Secretary of the Interior acknowledges as an Indian tribe and includes in the list of federally recognized Indian tribal governments.		OCSE glossary		General	
Information Memorandum	Document that provides state and tribunal child support enforcement agencies with information on program practices that can be useful to program improvement.		OCSE glossary		General	

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I Initiating Jurisdiction	The state, tribal or county court, or administrative agency that sends a request for action to another court or agency that can exercise legal authority against a party to an action. In cases where a state is trying to establish an initial child support order on behalf of a resident custodial parent and does not have Long-Arm Jurisdiction (cannot legally claim personal jurisdiction over a person who is not a resident), it must file a Two-State Action under the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) guidelines. (Tribes are not subject to UIFSA.)		OCSE glossary		Interstate	Long Arm Jurisdiction; Two-State Action; Uniform Interstate Family Support Act.
Initiating State	A state from which a proceeding is forwarded, or in which a proceeding is filed for forwarding, to a responding state.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110446		Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
Initiating Tribunal	The court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial entity in an initiating state authorized to establish, enforce, or modify support orders or to determine paternity.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110450		Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
Injured Spouse Claim	In cases where an NCP and present spouse file joint federal income tax returns, the present spouse may lodge a complaint with the IRS to get back his/her portion of the return that was intercepted by DCSS.		irs.gov		Enforcement	
Intact Family	A family group consisting of both parents living in the home with dependent child(ren).		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
Integrated Data Base	The California State database created from the counties' data which is used to report cases for the tax intercepts', credit bureau reporting, license suspension, etc.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Intercept	A method of securing child support by taking a portion of non-wage payments made to a noncustodial parent. Non-wage payments subject to interception include federal tax refunds, state tax refunds, unemployment benefits, lottery winnings, and disability benefits.		OCSE glossary	California State Lottery Intercept; Disability Insurance Benefit Intercept; Tax Refund Intercept; Franchise Tax Board Refund Intercept; Unemployment Insurance Benefit Intercept	Case Management	Federal Tax Refund Offset Program
Intercounty Responding Case	A case in which the noncustodial parent and the custodial party live in different counties within California and the county in which the noncustodial parent resides receives and responds to a child support action for the purpose of enforcement.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110458		Enforcement	

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I Interest	A rate of compensation for the use of forbearance of money, such as interest on a loan; a rate of compensation which must be paid by a judgment debtor. California allows the calculation of interest on unpaid child support order in dissolution of marriage case before the final decree is obtained.		LCSA glossary		Financial	Arrearage
Intergovernmental Case	A case in which the dependent child and noncustodial parent live in different states, tribes, territories or countries, or where two or more agencies or tribunals are involved in some case activity, such as enforcement. (Also called Interstate or Interjurisdictional Case.)		OCSE glossary		Interstate	
Intergovernmental Reference Guide	An online compilation of state, tribal, and international child support agencies' contact and policy information.	IRG	OCSE glossary		Interstate	
Internal Revenue Service	The federal agency which collects personal income tax.	IRS	irs.gov		Case Management	
International IV-D Case	A case under the state's child support program received from or referred to a foreign country that has entered into an agreement with the United States under section 459A of the Social Security Act (a Foreign Reciprocating Country or FRC) or a foreign country with which the state has entered a reciprocal agreement. International cases also include child support cases in which there is an application for services from an individual who resides in a foreign country.		OCSE glossary		Interstate	
Interstate Case	A case in which the dependent child(ren) and the custodial party or noncustodial parent live or have lived in different states and California is either the initiating or responding state, or the state which has issued the controlling order.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110466		Interstate	Initiating State, Responding State, Uniform Interstate Family Support Act.
Interstate Case Reconciliation	An OCSE program that matches cases that two states may have in common, identifies missing or incorrect data, and provides corrected data back to the states. The data include case ID, case status, and participant information.		OCSE glossary		Interstate	
Interstate Central Registry	The unit in each state child support agency that is responsible for receiving, distributing and responding to inquiries on all incoming interstate cases.		OCSE glossary		Interstate	
Interstate IV-D Case	A child support case in which the noncustodial parent lives or works in a different state from the custodial parent and child. Unless otherwise specified, the term applies both to one state and two- state interstate cases.		OCSE glossary		Interstate	

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I Interview	Each local child support agency (LCSA) is required to conduct an interview with the custodial parent (or noncustodial parent if that parent is applying for IV-D services) within ten (10) business days of opening a case. The LCSA representative shall answer questions and provide information regarding the parent's rights and responsibilities, review forms completed by the parent, solicit information and re-interview when necessary.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 112140		Case Management	
Intracounty Case	A case in which only one county is providing Title IV-D services.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110470		Enforcement	
Intrastate Case	A case in which the dependent child(ren) and the custodial party or noncustodial parent live in the same state and the initiating and responding jurisdictions are located in the same state but different counties.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Issuing State	The state which has issued a support order or rendered a judgment determining parentage.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110474		Interstate	Interstate Cases; Uniform Interstate Family Support Act.
Issuing Tribunal	The court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial entity that issues a support order or renders a judgment determining parentage.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110478		Interstate	
IV-A Case	A case in which a state provides public assistance under the state's IV-A program, which is funded under Title IV-A of the Social Security Act where the child(ren) have been determined to be eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). The children's support rights have been assigned to the state or tribe, and a referral to the child support agency has been made.		OCSE glossary		General	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families; Public Assistance; Title IV-A
IV-D Case	A case in which a state provides child support services as directed by the state or tribal child support program that is authorized by Title IV-D of the Social Security Act. A IV-D case is comprised of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a dependent child or children • a custodial party who may be a parent, caretaker relative or other custodian, including an entity such as a foster care agency; and • a noncustodial parent or parents, a mother, a father, or a putative father whose paternity has not been legally established. 		OCSE glossary		General	Title IV-D, State/Tribal IV-D Case

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I IV-E Case	A case in which a state currently provides benefits or services for foster care maintenance to children entitled to foster care maintenance under the state's IV-E Program authorized under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. These cases are also eligible for IV-D services.		OCSE glossary		General	Foster Care
J Judgment	The official decision or finding of a judge or administrative agency hearing officer upon the respective rights and claims of the parties to an action; also known as a decree or order. It may include the "findings of fact and conclusions of law."		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Judicial Council of California	The Judicial Council of California is the constitutionally mandated body responsible for improving the administration of justice in the state. The council is headed by the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court and is made up of judges, court executives, attorneys, and legislators. It was established to standardize court administration, practice, and procedure by adopting and enforcing rules for the State Courts.	JCC	DCSS Legal		General	
Judicial Process	The use of tribunals in determining child support legal obligations, including paternity establishment, order establishment, enforcement, and modifications of orders.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Jurisdiction	The legal authority that a court or administrative agency has over particular persons and over certain types of cases, usually in a defined geographical area. Also, a term used to signify a geographic location such as a state or tribe with a tribunal that exercises such authority.		OCSE glossary		Legal	Initiating Jurisdiction; Long Arm Jurisdiction; Two-State Action
Juvenile	A person under the legal age of adulthood, usually 18 years but in some instances 21 years.		www.courts.ca.gov	Child; Minor		Minor Child
Juvenile Court	That part of the Superior court that has jurisdiction over delinquency, status offense, and dependency cases involving minor children.		www.courts.ca.gov		General	
K Kinship Guardian Assistance Program	The Kinship Guardianship Assistance Payment Program under which public assistance is provided on behalf of children in long-term placements with relatives, as specified in Chapter 2 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code commencing with Section 11360.	KinGAP	W&I Code 11360		General	
L Legal Father	A man who is recognized by law as the male parent of a child.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Levy	The seizure and possible subsequent sale of assets, including personal property, to satisfy a child support debt.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	

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L Lien	A claim upon property to prevent sale or transfer of that property until a debt is satisfied.		OCSE glossary		Enforcement	Lienholder
Lienholder	A person who holds a lien on another's property or funds.		LCSA glossary		Enforcement	Lien
Liquidate	To pay and settle a debt. To gather the assets of a debtor, convert them into cash, and distribute them according to the legal rights of the parties. To ascertain the amount that a bankrupt person owes and to apportion the assets toward a discharge of the debts.		DCSS Legal		Enforcement	
Litigation	A action in which a controversy is brought before the court.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Local Child Support Agency	The county office or department that has entered into a cooperative agreement with the California Department of Child Support Services to secure child, spousal and medical support, and determine paternity.	LCSA	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110506	IV-D Agency	General	
Local Child Support Agency Representative	Agent or officer of the Local Child Support Agency.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Local Child Support Agency
Local Plan of Cooperation	A cooperative agreement between a local child support agency and another county agency that coordinates their respective roles and delineates responsibilities for establishing paternity, establishing, modifying, and enforcing child support, spousal support, and medical support, or otherwise carrying out the requirements of Title IV-D.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110510	Cooperative Agreement	General	Plan of Cooperation
Locate	"Locate" or "Location" means information concerning the physical whereabouts of the custodial party, noncustodial parent, noncustodial parent's employers, or the noncustodial parent's sources of income or assets which is used for the purpose of establishing paternity and establishing, modifying, and/or enforcing a child support obligation.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110514	Location	General	
Locate Information	Data used to locate a putative father, noncustodial parent, or custodial parents. May include their Social Security Number, date of birth, residential address, and employer.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Long Arm Jurisdiction	The legal authority for one state or tribe to assert personal jurisdiction over someone who lives or is served with process in another state. There must be some meaningful connection between the person and the state, tribe or district that is asserting jurisdiction in order for a court or agency to reach beyond its normal jurisdictional border.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110518; OCSE glossary	Extended Personal Jurisdiction	Interstate	Initiating Jurisdiction; Two-State Action; Uniform Interstate Family Support Act

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L Long Arm Statute	A law that permits one state to claim personal jurisdiction over someone who lives in another state.		OCSE glossary		Interstate	Long Arm Jurisdiction; Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
Lost Warrant Affidavit	A statement under penalty of perjury by a payee, that the payee has not received a warrant by the County Auditor-Controller for child support, TANF, CalWORKs, KinGAP or disregard. Also called Lost/Destroyed Warrant certificate..		DCSS Legal		Financial	
M Majority	The legal age status at which full personal and civil rights may be exercised. The duration of a support order is determined by the issuing state's law which defines the age of majority and/or emancipation.		Title 22 Division 13 Section 117301	Age of Majority, Age of Emancipation	General	Emancipation, Minor Child
Manual of Policy and Procedures	Regulations governing the functions of the county welfare department with respect to the child support program. A plan of cooperation that was developed and executed with each county which delegates certain functions of the program to local child support offices.	MPP	MPP Div. 12		General	
Marital Settlement Agreement	A written contract between spouses that contains details about how the issues in their case will be handled, including division of property and debts, support, or child custody. It is often incorporated into a stipulated judgment of dissolution, legal separation, or annulment.		DCSS Legal	Divorce Settlement	Legal	Dissolution
Marriage	Marriage is a personal relation arising out of a civil contract between two people, to which the consent of the parties capable of making that contract is necessary, followed by the issuance of a license.		DCSS Legal		General	Presumption of Paternity
Maximum Family Grant	REPEALED AS OF January 1, 2017. Previously, beginning August 1, 1997, if the custodial parent had been on public assistance for ten consecutive months, and had another child, the maximum aid payment would not increase. This is no longer in effect.	MFG	CDSS: All County Letter No. 16-66	Maximum Family Grant Child	Case Management	
Medical Assistance Only	Form of public assistance administered by a state's IV-A program that provides benefits to recipients only in the form of medical, rather than financial, assistance.	MAO	OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Medi-Cal Eligibility Data System	Computer program that allows access to authorized users of information on individuals receiving TANF/Medi-Cal in California.	MEDS	DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Medi-Cal Program	California's medical assistance program provided under the State Plan approved under Title XIX of the Social Security Act.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110542		General	

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M Medical Support	Medical coverage provided for a child or children pursuant to an order. This includes: (1) private health insurance, (2) publicly-funded health coverage if a parent is ordered by a court or administrative process to provide cash medical support payments to help pay the cost of Medicaid or Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP), (3) cash medical support, including payment of health insurance premiums, and (4) payment of medical bills (including dental or eye care). Indian Health Service and Tricare are acceptable forms of medical support. Medical support may be provided by the custodial parent, noncustodial parent or another person, such as a stepparent.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110550; OCSE glossary	Medical Support Judgment; Medical Coverage; Medical Insurance	General	National Medical Support Notice (NMSN)
Medically Needy Only Recipient	An individual who is receiving only benefits under the Medi-Cal program.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110546		General	Medi-Cal Program
Military Allotment	The amount which is automatically deducted from the pay of military personnel for a designated purpose. This may include an allotment which will be sent to dependents. Allotments can be voluntary or involuntary.		LCSA glossary	Allotment	Case Management	
Minimum Basic Standards of Adequate Care	The minimum amount necessary to provide an aided family with basic needs.	MBSAC	DCSS Legal		General	
Minor Child	A person under the age of 18 years, that has not been legally emancipated.		DCSS Legal	Child; Minor	General	Juvenile, Emancipation
Minor Parent	A person under the age of 18, who has not been legally emancipated but is the mother/father of a minor child. May also be referred to as Minor Mother, Minor Father or Minor Noncustodial Parent.		DCSS Legal		General	Emancipation, Juvenile
Mixed Aid Status Case	A Title IV-D case where one or more of the children in the case have a different aid or non-aid status, either currently or in the past.		MPP 12-405 (m)		Case Management	Aid, Public Assistance, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
Modification	A court-ordered change or alteration of a child support order.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110562		General	Review and Adjustment
Monthly Support Obligation	The amount of money a noncustodial parent or party is required to pay each month for child and/or spousal support.	MSO	OCSE glossary		Case Management	

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M Motion	An application to the court requesting an order or ruling in favor of the party that is filing the motion. Motions are generally made in reference to a pending action and may address a matter in the court's discretion or concern a point of law.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Multistate Employer	An employer that conducts business in two or more states. As with single-state employers, multistate employers are required by law to report all new hires to the State Directory of New Hires (SDNH) operated by their state government. However, unlike single-state employers, a multistate employer may report all of their new hires to the SDNH of only one state in which they do business rather than to each of them.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Multistate Financial Institution	A financial institution that conducts business in two or more states.	MSFI	OCSE glossary		Case Management	Multistate Financial Institution Data Match
Multistate Financial Institution Data Match	Process created by which delinquent child support obligors are matched with accounts held in financial institutions doing business in more than one state.	MSFIDM	OCSE glossary		Case Management	Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996
N National Automated Clearing House Association	The association that establishes the standards, rules, and procedures that enable financial institutions to exchange payments on a national basis. The Electronic Funds Transfer and the child support Electronic Data Interchange formats are established by NACHA. NACHA also establishes rules and procedures that govern use of the stored value cards.	NACHA	OCSE glossary		Financial	
National Directory of New Hires	A national database containing new hire and quarterly wage data from every state and federal agency and unemployment insurance data from state employment security agencies. Data contained is first reported to each state's State Directory of New Hires and then transmitted to the National Directory of New Hires. The Office of Child Support Enforcement maintains the National Directory of New Hires as part of the expanded Federal Parent Locator Service. (Tribes can choose to obtain access to the NDNH by agreements with a state.)	NDNH	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110566		General	New Hire Reporting, Quarterly Wage Data; Unemployment Insurance File

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
N National Medical Support Notice	<p>The standard form sent to an employer from the state child support agency ordering the employer and its health care plan administrator to enroll a noncustodial parent's child in health care coverage when coverage is available through the employer and required as part of a child support order. When properly completed, the NMSN constitutes a Qualified Medical Child Support Order, a document necessary for health care plans to enroll dependents who are not residing with the covered parent. The NMSN is designed to simplify the work of employers and plan administrators by providing a uniform document to request health care coverage.</p> <p>The "National Medical Support Notice", Part A, "Notice to Withhold for Health Care Coverage", OMB 0970-0222, and Part B, "Medical Support Notice to Plan Administrator," OMB 1210-0113, directed to the obligor's employer pursuant to a medical support order requiring the obligor to provide health insurance coverage for the obligor's minor child(ren).</p>	NMSN	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110570; OCSE glossary		General	
National Personnel Records Center	Part of the National Archives and Records Administration's system of record storage facilities. NPRC is the central repository of personnel-related records for both military and civil services of the United States Government.	NPRC	National Archives archives.gov		Case Management	
Never Assigned Arrearages	Arrearages that have never been assigned to the state in never assistance cases. Never assigned arrearages are also the arrearages in former assistance cases that accrued after a family's most recent period of aid ends.		MPP 12-405 (n)(1)		Financial	
Never Assistance Case	A Title (V-D case that is not currently and has never in the past received aid under AFDC, CalWORKs (which includes legal immigrant program), or foster care.		MPP 12-405 (n)(2)		Financial	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
N New Hire Reporting	Program under which employers submit data on a new employee within 20 days of hire to the State Directory of New Hires (SDNH) in the state where they do business. Minimum data required includes the employee's name, address, and Social Security number, and the employer's name, address, and Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN). Some states request additional data. A multistate employer has the option of reporting all new hires to a single state in which they do business. The data is then submitted to the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH) and compared against child support order information contained in the Federal Case Registry (FCR) for possible enforcement of child support obligations by wage garnishment. New hire data may also be used at the state level by other agencies to detect fraud; for example, to find new hires that have been receiving unemployment insurance or other public benefits for which they may no longer be eligible. Federal agencies report new hire data directly to the NDNH. (Tribal programs can have access to NDNH data by agreement with a state.)	NH	OCSE glossary	New Hire Data	Case Management	State Directory of New Hires; National Directory of New Hires
Noncompliance	For the purposes of paying incentives and passing on federal sanctions, noncompliance means a county fails to achieve compliance with each program performance standard in 75 percent of the cases reviewed, and as otherwise specified in regulations.		MPP 12-101.3 (n)(1)		General	Compliance, Performance Measures
Non-Cooperation	Failure of a CalWORKs or Medically Needy Only (MNO) recipient to cooperate with the Local Child Support Agency in identifying and locating the noncustodial parent, establishing paternity and/or child support, and/or enforcing child support payments.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Cooperation, Good Cause, Sanction
Noncustodial Parent	The parent of the child(ren) that may be or is obligated to pay child support.	NCP	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110582		General	Obligor
Nondisclosure Finding	A finding that the health, safety, or liberty of a party or child would be unreasonably put at risk by the disclosure of identifying information. Interstate petitions must include certain identifying information regarding the parties and child(ren) unless a tribunal makes a nondisclosure finding by ordering that the address or identifying information not be disclosed. In such cases, the finding would be identified by a Family Violence Indicator (FVI). The procedures for obtaining a nondisclosure finding vary from state to state.		OCSE glossary	Nondisclosure Order	General	Family Violence Indicator
Non-Federal Foster Care	Foster Care public assistance program funded with state and county funds.				General	Foster Care

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
N Non-IV-A Case	A support case in which the custodial party has requested IV-D services but is not receiving public assistance and does not have an application for public assistance pending.		DCSS Legal	Non-welfare case	Case Management	Private Case, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids
Non-IV-D Case	A case where the order is entered into privately and the CSE agency is not providing locate, enforcement, or collection services; often entered into during divorce proceedings. Non-IV-D cases are for payment processing only.		OCSE glossary	Private Case		
Non-IV-D Orders	A child support order handled by a private attorney or parties representing themselves as opposed to an order where the action was brought by the state or local child support (IV-D) agency. A non- IV-D order is one where the state: 1) Is not currently providing services under the state's Title IV-A, Title IV-D, Title IV-E, or Title XIX programs. 2) Has no current application or applicable fee for services paid by either parent.		OCSE glossary		General	
Non-Needy Payee	The payee of a public assistance case where the child resides with a relative or unrelated adult who is not able to sustain the additional financial burden of the child without public assistance yet does not require public assistance for him or herself.		DCSS Legal	Non-Needy Relative/Caretaker	General	Caretaker
O Obligation	The amount of money to be paid as support by a parent or spouse in the form of financial support for the child support, medical support, or spousal support.		OCSE glossary	Obligated	General	Obligor
Obligee	An individual, agency, or entity to whom a duty of support is owed. The person, state or tribal agency, or other entity to which child support is owed (also referred to as a custodial party when the money is owed to the person with primary custody of the child).		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110590; OCSE glossary	Judgment Creditor	General	Custodial Party
Obligor	An individual, or the estate of a decedent, who owes a duty of support. The person obligated to pay child support (also referred to as a noncustodial parent or NCP).		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110594; OCSE glossary	Judgment Debtor	General	Noncustodial Parent

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
O Office of Child Support Enforcement	The federal agency responsible for the administration of the Child Support Enforcement program. Created by Title IV-D of the Social Security Act in 1975, OCSE is responsible for developing child support policy; oversight, evaluation, and audits of state and tribal child support programs; and providing technical assistance and training to those programs. OCSE operates the Federal Parent Locator Service, which includes the National Directory of New Hires and the Federal Case Registry. OCSE is part of the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).	OCSE	OCSE glossary		General	
Office of Personnel Management	The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) serves as the chief human resources agency and personnel policy manager for the Federal Government.	OPM	opm.gov		General	
Office of Vital Records	The office within the California Department of Health Services is charged with the responsibility of maintaining a uniform system for registration and a permanent central registry with a comprehensive and continuous index for all birth, death, fetal death, still birth, marriage and divorce certificates registered for vital events which occur in California.	OVR	www.dhs.ca.gov	Bureau of Vital Statistics	General	
Offset	The process of reducing funds paid by the federal government to an obligor and applying the funds toward the balance of the delinquent debt. Also the amount of money that is intercepted from an obligor's state or federal income tax refund or from an administrative payment, such as federal retirement benefits, in order to satisfy a child support debt.		OCSE glossary		Financial	
Ombudsperson	The person designated within each local child support agency to be the lead administrator of the Ombudsperson Program.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110598	Ombudsman	Customer Service	Ombudsperson Program
Ombudsperson Program	The person, persons, or office so designated within each local child support agency to provide a means to resolve customer issues related to child support services. Issues may include inquiries, questions or requests for assistance or facilitation in navigating the local complaint resolution and state hearing processes.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110602		Customer Service	Complaint Resolution Process
Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993	Legislation that mandated that insurance providers and employers offer dependent health coverage to children even if the child is not in the custody of the employee in the plan. OBRA '93 created Qualified Medical Child Support Orders (QMCSOs).	OBRA '93	Justia.com		Case Management	Qualified Medical Child Support Order

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
O Open Case	An active case, in the process of either establishing paternity, or establishing or enforcing an order for support.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Order	A legally binding decision that sets forth the responsibilities of the parties to an action. It can include a determination of parentage and a support obligation and set forth other rights of the parties. It can be issued by a judge, master or other administrative entity authorized to enter orders. It can also be a consent agreement between the parties that has been ratified by an appropriate official.		OCSE glossary	Court Order	Legal	Child Support Order; Support Order
Order To Appear For Examination	An order by a court that the judgment debtor or a third party appear in court on a specified date and time to answer questions about his or her assets and income.		DCSS Legal	Judgment Debtor Exam	Legal	
Order to Show Cause and Affidavit for Contempt	An order by a court that a party appear and give reasons (show cause) why the court should not hold him/her in contempt for failure to abide by a court order.		DCSS Legal	Order to Show Cause	Legal	Show Cause
Order/Notice to Withhold Income for Child Support	The form to be used by all states that standardizes the information used to request income withholding for child support by an employer from a noncustodial parent's earnings.	ONTW	OCSE glossary	Earnings Assignment; Notice to Withhold Income for Child Support; Wage Assignment	Case Management	Direct Income Withholding, Income Withholding Order, Income Withholding, Garnishment
Other Group Health Insurance	Private group health insurance coverage provided through an organization other than through an employment-related group health insurance.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110606		General	Health Insurance Coverage, Employment-Related Group Health Insurance
Other Parent	An individual among the case participants who is somehow involved in the case, but is neither the Custodial Party or the Noncustodial Parent, e.g. the NCP is the mother and the CP is the child's aunt, the "Other Parent" is the father of the child.	OP	DCSS Legal		General	
P Parentage	The legal mother-child relationship and father-child relationship as determined by the state.		OCSE glossary		General	Paternity
Pass-on Payment	The amount by which the current support collection exceeds the current the assistance paid during the collection month in a federal foster care case.		MPP 12-101.3 (p)(1)		Financial	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
P Passport Denial Program	Program created by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996 that is operated under the auspices of the Federal Offset Program (FOP). Under the Passport Denial Program, cases in which an obligor owes child support arrearages that are greater than the federally mandated threshold and are submitted to the FOP are forwarded to the U.S. Department of State, which flags the obligor's name and refuses to issue a passport in the event he or she applies for one. After the obligor makes arrangements to satisfy the arrears, states can notify OCSE to request the State Department remove him/her from the program. This program is automatic, meaning that any obligor who is eligible will be submitted to the State Department unless the state submitting the case for tax refund offset specifically excludes him/her from the Passport Denial Program. (Tribes can choose to have access based on an agreement with the state.)		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Federal Tax Refund Offset Program, Federal Offset Program
Paternity	The legal establishment of fatherhood for a child, either by court determination, administrative process, tribal custom or voluntary acknowledgment. A paternity acknowledgment involves the legal establishment of fatherhood for a child through a voluntary acknowledgment signed by both parents as part of an in-hospital or other acknowledgement service.		OCSE glossary		General	Genetic Testing, Biological Father, Parentage
Paternity at Issue	The legal determination of fatherhood has not yet been established.		LCSA glossary			Paternity
Paternity Judgment	A judgment by a court, usually in writing, determining the legal father of a minor child.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Paternity Not at Issue	The legal determination of fatherhood has been established.		LCSA glossary		General	
Paternity Opportunity Program	A voluntary paternity acknowledgment program implemented January 1995 that establishes paternity for unmarried fathers. The POP is a voluntary program for an unmarried mother and biological father to establish legal paternity free of charge. This significantly decreases the time and money required to establish legal paternity through the lengthy and expensive court process. A signed CS 909, Declaration of Paternity has the same force and effect as a judgement for paternity issued by a court.	POP	www.childsup.ca.gov	Consent Agreement	General	
Payee	Person or organization in whose name child support money is paid.		OCSE glossary		General	Custodial Party, Obligee

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
P Payment Hold	Collections that are held by the local child support agency for distribution and disbursement at a later date for various reasons, such as, but not limited to: custodial party's location is unknown, payments cannot be identified, payments are being held for distribution in a subsequent month.		DCSS Legal		Financial	Futures, Suspense
Payment Record	A record of financial transactions including payments and obligations associated with a child support case.		DCSS Legal	Payment History	Financial	Account
Payment Source	The origin (e.g., person, other county or state child support enforcement agency) or the enforcement method used to obtain the support payment received (e.g., wage assignment, writs, till taps, tax intercept, etc.)		MPP 12-405 (p)(1)	Writ Payment	Financial	
Payor	Person who makes a payment, usually a noncustodial parent or someone acting on their behalf.		OCSE glossary	Judgment Debtor	General	Noncustodial Parent, Obligor
Penal Code 270	A criminal proceeding resulting from obligor's willful failure to provide for the needs of his/her minor child(ren).		California Penal Code	PC 270	Legal	
Performance Measures	Federal: Criteria established by the Office of Child Support Enforcement to measure State performance levels in five program areas: Paternity Establishment; Support Order Establishment; Current Collections; Arrearage Collections; and Cost Effectiveness. State: Criteria established in the child support reform legislation of 1999 to assess program performance in a total of eleven different performance standards.		DCSS Legal	Federal Performance Measures	General	
Permanent Disability Benefits	Worker's Compensation payments to compensate an injured worker for the effects of any work-related injury which causes a permanent loss of earning power or permanent impairment. The amount of payment is based on a "rating" which apportions the exact amount of disability or impairment.	PD	DCSS Legal		General	
Permanently Assigned Arrearages	Unpaid support that is assigned to the state as of September 30, 1998 and the unpaid support that accrues on or after October 1, 1998 while the family is receiving aid.		MPP 12-405 (p)(2)		Financial	
Personal Jurisdiction	The legal authority of a tribunal to render judgment against a party to an action or a proceeding and subject a person to the decisions, rulings, and orders of the tribunal.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110654		Interstate	

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P Personal Property	Generally, possessions or interests which are not real property or a right or interest in an estate in real property which is less than a freehold, but which are easily transported or stored, e.g. cars, boats, furniture, tools, bank accounts, etc. Personal property may also include a claim in a lawsuit, a bankruptcy action, an insurance claim, a retirement fund, or an estate in probate.		DCSS Legal		General	Real Property
Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996	Legislation that provides a number of requirements for employers, public licensing agencies, financial institutions, as well as state, tribal and federal child support agencies to assist in the location of noncustodial parents and establishing, enforcing, and collecting child support. This legislation created the New Hire Reporting program and the State and Federal Case Registries. Otherwise known as Welfare Reform.	PRWORA	OCSE glossary	Welfare Reform	General	Aid to Families with Dependent Children
Personal Service of Process	Service of court papers by handing a copy to the person to be served or to someone authorized to receive it on the person's behalf.		DCSS Legal		General	Service of Process
Petitioner	The person, state or tribal agency initiating a petition or motion.		OCSE glossary	Petition	Legal	
Placement	Either the voluntary placement by an applicant who had custody of his/her child and placed the child in out-of-home care or the placement of a child in out-of-home care as a result of a child being declared a dependent child of the court under Welfare and Institutions Code Section 300.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110658		Case Management	Dependency Hearing, Foster Care
Plaintiff	A person who brings an action; the party who complains or sues in a civil case.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Plan Administrator	For the purposes of Medical Enforcement, any person who collects any charge or premium from, or who adjusts or settles claims on, residents of California in connection with health insurance coverage.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110662		Enforcement	
Plan of Cooperation	The contractual agreement between the Department of Child Support Services and each county's Local Child Support Agency for administering the Child Support Enforcement Program.		MPP Section 12-101.3 (p)(3)	Cooperative Agreement	General	Local Plan of Cooperation
Pleadings	Statements or allegations, presented in logical and legal form, which constitute a plaintiff's cause of action or a defendant's grounds of defense.		OCSE glossary		Legal	

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P Policy Interpretation Question	An official reply by the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE) to an inquiry submitted by a state or tribal child support agency concerning application of policy. Although questions often arise from a specific practice or situation, the responses are official statements of OCSE policy on the issue. The federal government, through the child support program, shares the cost of the state program with Federal Financial Participation (FFP).	PIQ	OCSE glossary		General	
Presumed Income	If the support obligor's income or income history is unknown to the local child support agency, the complaint shall inform the support obligor that income shall be presumed to be the amount of the minimum wage, at 40 hours per week, established by the Industrial Welfare Commission pursuant to Section 1182.11 of the Labor Code unless information concerning the support obligor's income is provided to the court.		FC 17400 (d) (2)		Case Management	Minimum Basic Standards of Adequate Care, Default Judgment
Presumption of Paternity	A rule of law that permits a court to assume a man is the father of a child if certain facts exist. This rule may be rebutted by presenting factual information that shows the man could not be the father.		OCSE glossary	Conclusive Presumption of Paternity; Presumption; Rebuttable Presumption of Paternity; Presumption		Paternity
Private Case	Known as a non-IV-D case, it is a support case where the custodial parent to whom child support is owed is not receiving IV-A benefits or IV-D services.		OCSE glossary	Non-Welfare Case	General	Non-IV-A Case, Non-IV-D Case
Pro se	When a party represents himself in a legal matter, rather than being represented by a lawyer.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Proactive Matching	Process in which child support case data newly submitted to the Federal Case Registry (FCR) is automatically compared with previous submissions, as well as with the employment data in the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH). The resulting locate information is then returned to the appropriate State(s) for processing.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Probability of Paternity	The probability that the alleged father is the biological father of the child as indicated by genetic test results.		OCSE glossary		Establishment	
Proceeding	The conduct of business before a judge or administrative hearing officer.		OCSE glossary		Legal	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
P Program Improvement Plan	Written plan for improvement submitted to the state, by an LCSA, as a result of a noncompliance finding in a particular area.		LCSA glossary		General	Noncompliance
Project Save Our Children	In 1998, the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and the U.S. Department of Justice, created Project Save Our Children (PSOC) to coordinate efforts in support of activities resulting from the federal criminal non-support laws.	PSOC	AT-11-01		General	
Proof of Claim	A statement under oath filed in a bankruptcy proceeding by a creditor in which the creditor sets forth the amount owed and sufficient detail to identify the basis for the claim. Note: Evidence of the debt (generally in a child support judgment or order, or administrative order) must be attached. The Proof of Claim must be filed with the court in order for payment under the bankruptcy to be received.		US Code Title 11, Appendix Part III, Rule 3001		Bankruptcy	
Property of the Estate	The debtor's tangible and intangible property interests (including legal and equitable interests) as of the commencement of the bankruptcy. Note: The assets which the debtor cannot exempt and the trustee distributes to the creditors. Property of the estate may include income, rental properties (primary residence is generally exempted), income tax refunds, and other assets. Check the Bankruptcy Code and Chapter for more information.		US Code Title 11, Section 541		Bankruptcy	
Property Tax Exemption File	A list which can be obtained from the California Board of Equalization on all absent parents who have filed homeowners' exemptions.	PTEF	DCSS Legal		Case Management	
Proposed Decision	The state hearing decision submitted by an Administrative Law Judge to the Director or Director's designee for adoption.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110678		Customer Service	
Proposed Judgment	Along with a Summons and Complaint, the local child support agency files a proposed 'Judgment Regarding Parental Obligations' with the court. The proposed judgment reflects the terms of the child support order and becomes an order of the court if the obligor does not respond, after being served.		DCSS Legal			Default, Summons and Complaint

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
P Public Assistance	Any amount paid under the TANF, CalWORKs program, as specified in 22 CCR Section 110112, or foster care, or any Medi-Cal benefit, for the benefit of any dependent child or the caretaker or child. Eligibility is based on need and varies between programs. Applicants for certain types of public assistance (for example, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or TANF) are automatically referred to their state or tribal child support agency, which will identify and locate the noncustodial parent, establish paternity where appropriate, and obtain child support payments. This allows the state or tribe to recoup or defray some of its public assistance expenditures with funds from the noncustodial parent and may enable the custodial party to become self-sufficient.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110682; OCSE glossary	Assistance; Welfare	General	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids, Foster Care, Medi-Cal Program; Aid
Putative Father	The person alleged to be the father of the child but who has not yet been medically or legally declared to be the father.	PF	OCSE glossary	Alleged Father; Presumed Father	Case Management	Legal Father, Paternity, Genetic Testing
Q Qualified Medical Child Support Order	An order, decree, or judgment, including approval of a settlement agreement, issued by a court or administrative agency of competent jurisdiction that provides for medical support for a child of a participant under a group health plan. A QMCSO must contain specific information to meet the requirements of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), which allows a plan administrator to enroll a child in the parent's health plan. A properly completed National Medical Support Notice (NMSN) is a QMCSO.	QMCSO	OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Quarterly Wage Data	Data on all employees that must be submitted by employers on a quarterly basis to the State Workforce Agency in the state in which they operate. This data is then submitted to the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH). Minimum information must include the employee's name, address, Social Security Number (SSN), wage amount, and the reporting period, and the employer's name, address, and Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN). The data is then compared against child support order information contained in the Federal Case Registry (FCR) for possible enforcement of child support obligations by wage garnishment. Federal Agencies report this data directly to the NDNH.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	State Workforce Agencies; National Directory of New Hires
Quash	To cancel by judicial order.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110686		Legal	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
Q Quasi-Judicial	A framework or procedure under the auspices of a state's judicial branch or tribal court in which court officers other than judges process, establish, enforce and modify support orders. The court officer may be a magistrate, a clerk, master, or court examiner. He or she may or may not have to be an attorney, depending on the state or tribal law. In California, commissioners establish, enforce and modify support orders, usually subject to judicial review.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Quick Locate	A request for locate services from one state's parent locator service to another state's parent locator service with the responding state providing those services without opening a Title IV-D case.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110690		Case Management	
R Real Property	Real estate or property, such as land and buildings that are permanent, fixed, and immovable.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110694		Enforcement	Personal Property
Real Property Lien	A charge against real property, as defined in 22 CCR Section 110694, to secure payment of a support obligation at the time of sale or transfer of real property.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110698		Enforcement	
Recipient of Services	The custodial party or noncustodial parent who has applied for, or is receiving, Title IV-D services, or has been referred to the Title IV-D agency.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110554	Recipient	General	
Reciprocity	The process by which one jurisdiction grants certain privileges to another jurisdiction on the condition that it receives the same privileges.		OCSE glossary		Interstate	
Recognized Order	The controlling order as identified by applying the rules of the Full Faith and Credit for Child Support Orders Act (FFCCSOA) used for enforcement from the present time forward.		OCSE glossary		Enforcement	Full Faith and Credit
Reconciliation	The voluntary resumption of cohabitation and marital relations.		LCSA glossary		General	
Recoupment	The amount of support that was collected that has been applied to reimburse in whole or in part the unreimbursed assistance pool (UAP) which is used to reimburse the federal, state, and county governments for aid paid to the family.		MPP 12-405 (r)(1)		Financial	Reimbursement, Unreimbursed Assistance Pool
Referral	Request sent to a child support agency from another jurisdiction or a non-IV-D agent or agency asking that a child support case be established.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	
Refund	To return money to an obligor.		DCSS Legal		Financial	

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
R Region 9 (San Francisco)	The Office of Regional Operations' San Francisco is one of ten regional offices of the Administration for Children and Families nationwide, responsible for overseeing the operation of the child support enforcement program. The Region 9 office is located in San Francisco, California and oversees administration of these programs by states, tribes, territories and local agencies located within the following states and pacific islands: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Republic of Palau.		acf.hhs.gov/oro/regional-offices		General	
Register	A legal process by which a support order or judgment is filed with a tribunal in a state to give that tribunal authority to modify and/or enforce a support order.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110710		Interstate	
Registration	The formal filing process by which an order of one jurisdiction is recognized in another jurisdiction. After registration, an action can be taken in a tribunal of the responding jurisdiction as if the order was issued in that jurisdiction. An order may be registered for enforcement, modification or both.		OCSE glossary		Interstate	
Regular Payments	All collections received, regardless of payment source, except IRS tax intercept.		MPP 12-405 (r)(2)		Financial	
Regulations	Rules and administrative codes issued by governmental agencies at all levels: municipal, county, state and federal. Although they are not laws, regulations have the force of law, since they are adopted under authority granted by statutes, and often include penalties for violations.		www.law.com		Legal	
Reimbursement	1) Repayment by the obligor of monies expended by the County in public assistance to the custodial party. 2) Repayment from the federal government and the state government for the costs of certain activities related to the TANF program undertaken by the DCSS operating under Plans of Cooperation. Activities include paternity determination, location of absent parents, enforcement, and staff training.		LCSA glossary		Financial	Recoupment

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
R Relative Caregiver	An adult who is related to the child by blood, adoption, or affinity within the fifth degree of kinship, including stepparents, stepsiblings, and all relatives whose status is preceded by the words "great," "great-great," or "grand" or the spouse of any of those persons even if the marriage was terminated by death or dissolution and who assumed primary responsibility for the child while the child was in the relative's care and control, and who is not a biological or adoptive parent.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110718		Case Management	
Release of Lien	Giving up a recorded judgment lien on real or personal property.		DCSS Legal		Enforcement	Demand Letter
Relinquishment of Parental Rights	The giving up or surrendering by a parent of the right of controlling the child and receiving the child's earnings. Abandonment by the parent is presumptive evidence of that relinquishment.		FC 7504		Legal	Termination of Parental Rights
Reopen	To reactivate a previously closed IV-D case.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Repayment Sharing Ratios	The rate used in determining the share of child support collected and retained as reimbursement for CalWORKs, KinGAP and Foster Care payments that are paid to the Department.				Financial	
Reserved Jurisdiction	A ruling by the court that it retains jurisdiction over a particular issue (e.g. child support).		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Respondent	The party answering a petition or motion.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Responding Jurisdiction	The court or administrative agency with authority over a noncustodial parent or child support order on which an initiating state has requested action.		OCSE glossary		Interstate	Initiating Jurisdiction
Responding State	A state in which a proceeding to establish, enforce, or modify a support order, or to determine paternity is filed or to which a proceeding is forwarded for filing from an initiating state.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110730		Interstate	Initiating State
Responding Tribunal	The court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial entity in a responding state authorized to establish, enforce, or modify support orders, or to determine paternity.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110734		Interstate	Initiating Tribunal
Restraining Order	A court order to preclude a person from doing something for a certain amount of time, usually until a court hearing is held.		www.courts.ca.gov		Legal	Temporary Restraining Order
Retroactive Child Support	Child support that is ordered to be paid commencing with a date in the past.		LCSA glossary	Nunc pro tunc		

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

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R Returned Warrant	A child support payment mailed to the custodial party or a refund or child support payment returned to the noncustodial parent by the local child support agency, that was returned to the LCSA by the post office as undeliverable.		LCSA glossary		Financial	
Review and Adjustment	Periodic process in which current information is obtained from both parties in a child support case and evaluated to decide if a support order needs to be adjusted.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Modification
Revised Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act	Revised URESA law that sets forth reciprocal laws concerning the enforcement of child support between states.	RURESA	justia.com		Interstate	Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act; Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
S Safeguard Activity Report	Describes procedures established and utilized by agencies receiving Federal tax information to ensure that the information remains confidential		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Sanction	Per Welfare-to-Work Activited under CalWORKs, whenever an individual has failed or refused to comply with program requirements without good cause in a program component to which he or she is assigned and refuses to agree to or fails, without good cause, to comply with a compliance plan agreed to between the county and the participant, the individual shall be subject to (financial) sanctions.		W&I 11327.4-.5		Case Management	Non-Cooperation
Secured Debt	Debt for which property was pledged as security for the satisfaction of the debt. Note: Debt that is secured has a higher priority in bankruptcy. These types of debts include mortgages, liens on property (such as lien holders for vehicles or judgment lien creditors with recorded abstracts of support judgments). To be effective, the lien must be recorded with the appropriate agency (county recorder, DMV, secretary of state, or other agency) prior to the filing of the bankruptcy.		Legal		Financial	Unsecured Debt
Service by Publication	Service of process accomplished by publishing a notice in a newspaper or by posting it on a bulletin board of a courthouse or other public facility, after a court determines that other means of service are impractical or have been unsuccessful. This method of service is not available in every jurisdiction. Per CCP 763.010 this process is available in California.		OCSE glossary	Publication	Legal	Service of Process

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

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S Service of Process	The actual delivery of legal paperwork that requires a person to respond or appear to that person or his/her agent.		OCSE glossary	Serve	Legal	
Show Cause	An order directing a person to appear and bring forth any evidence as to why the remedies requested should not be granted. A show cause order is usually based on a motion and affidavit asking for relief.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Single Aid Status Case	All of the children in the family receiving Title IV-D services from a local child support agency have the same public assistance status, and are either currently receiving public assistance, formerly received public assistance, or never received public assistance.				Financial	Mixed Aid Status Case
Single State Financial Institution Data Match	Process by which delinquent child support obligors are matched with accounts held in Financial Institutions (FI) doing business in only one state.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Financial Institution Data Match, Multistate Financial Institution Data Match
Social Security Act	A federal statute providing for the establishment of a nationwide federal and state system of old age assistance and pensions, old age and survivors' insurance benefits, and unemployment insurance or compensation, plus other incidental benefits.		Social Security Administration; ssa.gov		General	
Social Security Administration	The federal office where people can apply for a Social Security number and apply for benefits paid under the social security act.	SSA	Social Security Administration; ssa.gov		General	
Social Security Disability Insurance	Benefits paid to qualified workers at any age who have enough Social Security credits and who have a severe physical or mental impairment that is expected to prevent them from doing "substantial" work for a year or more or who have a condition that is expected to result in death.	SSDI	Social Security Administration; ssa.gov	Social Security Benefits	General	
Social Security Income	Income when a person retires or becomes disabled, or the family's only income when a person dies, based upon a percentage of earnings averaged over most of a person's working lifetime.		www.ssa.gov		General	
Social Security Number	A unique nine-digit number assigned to all qualified persons in the United States who have made a request to the Social Security Administration.	SSN	Social Security Administration; ssa.gov		General	

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S Social Worker	Someone employed to provide services intended to advance the social conditions of a community, and especially of the disadvantaged, such as psychological counseling, guidance, and assistance, especially in the form of social services (may also be known as caseworker, welfare worker, etc.).		www.Dictionary.com	Welfare Worker	General	Eligibility Worker
Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940	A federal statute providing for a stay of an action or proceeding in any court in which a person in military service is involved as a party, either on the court's own motion or upon application by a military party or some person on his/her behalf, unless in the opinion of the court the military party's ability to participate in the action or proceeding is not materially affected by reason of his/her military service.	SSCRA	DOJ @ www.justice.gov	The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA)	Case Management	
Split Custody	Two or more children from the same parents are in the legal and or physical custody of different people.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	Custody
Spousal Support	A legally enforceable obligation assessed against an individual for the support of a spouse or former spouse (ex-spouse) who is living with a child or children for whom the individual also owes support. Also referred to as maintenance or alimony.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110754	Alimony; Maintenance; Support	Case Management	
Spousal Support Order	An order for the payment of spousal support to a spouse or former spouse (ex-spouse) of the obligor.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110758	Support	General	Spousal Support
Standardized Data Elements	Data elements that must be included in each child support case record that is transmitted to the Federal Case Registry (FCR).				Case Management	
State	A state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States. The term "state" also includes both of the following: (a) An Indian tribe, including a Native Alaskan Village as defined in 42 United States Code, Section 619. (b) A foreign jurisdiction that has enacted a law or established procedures for issuance and enforcement of support orders which are substantially similar to the procedures under the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act specified in Chapter 6, of Part 5, of Division 9 (commencing with Section 4900) of the Family Code.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110762		Interstate	

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Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
S State Case Registry	A database maintained by each state that contains information on individuals in child support cases. Information submitted to the SCR is transmitted to the Federal Case Registry (FCR), where it is compared to cases submitted to the FCR by other states, as well as to employment data in the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH). Matches found are returned to the appropriate states for processing.	SCR	OCSE glossary		Case Management	Federal Case Registry; IV-D Case; Non-IV-D Orders
State Directory of New Hires	A database maintained by each state that contains information about individuals submitted by their employer within 20 days of hire. The data are transmitted to the NDNH, where they are compared to the employment data from other states as well as child support data in the Federal Case Registry. Matches found are returned to the appropriate states for processing. In California, the database is maintained by the California Employment Development Department (EDD).	SDNH	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110770; OCSE Glossary	New Employee Registry	General	National Directory of New Hires; New Hire Reporting
State Disability Insurance	A state-mandated insurance plan, administered by the Employment Development Department (EDD), funded through employee payroll deductions to provide short-term, partial wage replacement benefits to eligible workers who suffer a loss of wages when they are unable to work due to a non-work-related illness or injury or a medically disabling condition from pregnancy or childbirth.	SDI	DCSS Legal	Disability Insurance Benefits	Case Management	
State Disbursement Unit	The single site in most states where child support payments are sent for processing.	SDU	OCSE glossary	Centralized Collection Unit	CCSAS	California Child Support Automation System
State Employer Identification Number	An identification number unique to each employer.	SEIN	DCSS Legal			
State Hearing	An administrative hearing mandated by state law whereby a complainant may obtain an impartial review of a local child support agency or Franchise Tax Board action or inaction regarding a child support case.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110778		General	Complaint Resolution Process
State Hearing Office	The division that conducts state hearings in the office or agency designated by the Department to carry out state hearings.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110782		Customer Service	Complaint Resolution Process

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S State Hearing Representative	A local child support agency shall assign a representative to each child support case for which a state hearing has been scheduled. The state hearing representative shall provide a copy of the position statement at the state hearing and have the full responsibility to present the case at the state hearing in accordance with the requirements of this section 120204. The representative shall not be the individual whose action or inaction is the subject of the complaint, or the Ombudsperson.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 120204(a)(9)		Customer Service	Complaint Resolution Process
State Identification Card Number	The number that appears on a photo identification card issued by the State Department of Motor Vehicles. In California, the DMV issues ID cards to persons of any age. The ID card is similar to a driver license but is used for identification purposes only.		www.dmv.ca.gov		General	
State Licensing Match System	System which matches delinquent child support obligors with state-issued licenses when applying for or renewing a state license.	SLMS	LCSS glossary		Case Management	
State Parent Locator Service	A service provided by the state child support agencies to locate parents in order to establish and enforce child support obligations, visitation, and custody orders or to establish paternity. This information is accessible to tribes through agreement made with a state.	SPLS	OCSE glossary	Parent Locator Service	Case Management	California Parent Locator Service, Federal Parent Locator Service
State Supplementary Program	A state program administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA) which augments Supplemental Security Income and provides benefits for the elderly, disabled and blind.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Supplemental Security Income
State Unemployment Insurance	A federal-state program administered by the Employment Development Department (EDD) financed through employer contributions to provide partial wage replacement to eligible unemployed workers while they conduct an active search for new work.	SUI	DCSS Legal	Unemployment Insurance; Unemployment Insurance Benefits	Case Management	Intercept
State Workforce Agencies	Agencies in each state that process unemployment insurance claims and maintain databases of employment information and quarterly wage data submitted by employers. Formerly called State Employment Security Agencies (SESA). Registry (FCR) for possible enforcement of child support obligations by wage garnishment.	SWA	OCSE glossary	State Employment Security Agencies	Case Management	Unemployment Insurance File; Quarterly Wage Data; New Hire Reporting

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S State/County Plan of Cooperation	The cooperative agreement between the Department and each local child support agency that identifies the local child support agency's roles and responsibilities for establishing paternity, establishing, modifying, and enforcing child support, spousal support, and medical support, or otherwise carrying out the requirements of Title IV-D.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110766		General	
State/Tribal IV-D Case	A case under the state's child support program received from, or sent to, a tribal child support program for case processing.		OCSE glossary			
Statute of Limitations	The cutoff point on the length of time a person has to take a legal action.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Stay	An order by a court which suspends all or some of the proceedings in a case.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Stay of Assignment	An order by a court which temporarily stops the enforcement of either a wage or medical assignment until the happening of a contingency or further court order regarding the stay.		DCSS Legal		Legal	
Stipulation	A written agreement between the parties that certain facts are true and will not be contested for the purposes of a particular lawsuit.		legal-dictionary		Legal	Stipulation and Order
Stipulation and Order	An agreement relating to a pending court proceeding between parties or their attorneys, entered with or without a court appearance, that is submitted to the Court for approval and with the Court's signature becomes a court order.		www.courts.ca.gov		Legal	Stipulation
Stored Value Card	A form of electronic disbursement in which the child support payment is electronically transmitted to the custodial party via a debit card. Also referred to as Electronic Payment Card.	SVC	OCSE glossary	Electronic Payment Card	Financial	
Subject Matter Jurisdiction	A tribunal's authority to hear and determine the issues presented in a case brought before it.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 110794		Interstate	Jurisdiction
Subordination of Lien	The act by which a lienholder agrees to place his lien in a lower priority for payment than another claim or lien.		DCSS Legal		Enforcement	
Subpoena	A process issued by a court compelling a witness to appear at a judicial proceeding. Sometimes the process will also direct the witness to bring documentary evidence to the court.		OCSE glossary	Subpoena Duces Tecum	Legal	

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S Substituted Service	Service of process by leaving legal documents with an adult in the recipient's home or with the recipient's manager at work. Followed with service by mail to the recipient at the same address.		DCSS Legal		Case Management	Service of Process
Substitution of Payee	A legal process that provides notice that payments made under a judgment or order for support should be made to an individual or Title IV-D agency other than originally specified in the judgment or order for support.		Real Property Liens: A Resource Guide for Child Support Professionals	Change of Payee	Legal	
Summons	A notice to a defendant that an action against him or her has been commenced in the court and that a judgment will be issued against him or her if the complaint is not answered within a certain time.		OCSE glossary		Legal	
Summons and Complaint	A mandatory Judicial Council form used to notify a defendant that a lawsuit has been filed against him or her, and that a judgment will be taken against the defendant as requested by the plaintiff if no answer is filed and the defendant fails to appear within the time allowed by law (generally 30 days in California).		LCSA glossary		Legal	Default, Summons, Proposed Judgment
Superior Court	The trial court in each county of the State of California which hears all adoption, family law, juvenile, criminal, civil, small claims, and probate cases.		www.courts.ca.gov		General	
Supplemental Security Income	A Federal income supplement program funded by general tax revenues designed to help aged, blind, and disabled people, who have little or no income.	SSI	www.ssa.gov	Social Security Supplemental Income	General	
Support Order	A judgment or order of support, including medical support, whether temporary, final, or subject to modification, termination, or remission, regardless of the kind of action or proceeding in which it is entered.		MPP 12-101.3 (s)(7)	Child Support Order	Legal	Obligation; Noncustodial Parent, Obligor, Child Support Order
Suspense	An account into which payments are deposited until the payor is identified or the proper account to be credited is determined.		LCSA glossary		Financial	Payment Hold
T Tax Refund Offset Notice	A notice sent to the obligor by the IRS or FTB advising him/her that part or all of his/her tax refund was intercepted to pay past due child support.		LCSA glossary	Income Tax Refund Offset Notice	Enforcement	Federal Tax Refund Offset Program, Intercept

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
T Temporarily Assigned Arrearages	Unpaid support that accrues after October 1, 1998, and before the period the family receives aid (pre-assistance arrears), and any unassigned arrears that accrued before October 1, 1998, when the family goes on aid after October 1, 1998. These arrearages are not permanently assigned. The temporary assignment ends when the family stops receiving aid.		MPP 12-405 (t)		Financial	
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	Time-limited public assistance payments made to poor families, based on Title IV-A of the Social Security Act. TANF replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children when the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) was signed into law in 1996. The program provides parents with job preparation, work, and support services to help them become self-sufficient. Applicants for TANF benefits are automatically referred to their state or tribal child support agency in order to establish paternity and child support for their children from the noncustodial parent. This allows the state or tribe to recoup or defray some of its public assistance expenditures with funds from the noncustodial parent.	TANF	OCSE glossary		General	Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Good Cause
Temporary Restraining Order	A court order for an injunction forbidding a defendant or third party from taking certain actions or doing specified things until there is a court hearing addressing the matter. In Family Law, these are commonly used as a restraint on conduct to prevent any party from disposing of assets.	TRO	LCSA glossary		Legal	Restraining Order
Temporary Support Order	An interim order for the obligor to pay support while the court case is pending entry of a final judgment.	TSO	LCSA glossary		Legal	
Termination of Parental Rights	A proceeding that declares a minor child free from the care and control of either or both parents and that terminates all parental rights and responsibilities with regard to the child.		FC 7802, 7803		Legal	Relinquishment of Parental Rights
Third Party Liability	The responsibility that an entity, other than the parties to an action (CP and NCP, usually the parents), has to the state provider of health care coverage for reimbursement.		OCSE glossary		General	
Title	Evidence of a right of possession of land or other property, in the form of a written instrument. For real property, this is usually in the form of a deed of trust.		LCSA glossary		Case Management	
Title IV-A	Title IV of the federal Social Security Act, Part A, Block Grants to States for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, codified at 42 U.S.C., Section 601, et seq.	IV-A	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110842		General	IV-A Case

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T Title IV-D	Title IV of the federal Social Security Act, Part D, Child Support and Establishment of Paternity, codified at 42, U.S.C., Section 651, et seq.	IV-D	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110850		General	IV-D Case
Title IV-E	Title IV of the federal Social Security Act, Part E, Federal Payments for Foster Care and Adoption Assistance, codified at 42, U.S.C., Section 670 et seq.	IV-E	Title 22, Division 13, Section 110854		General	IV-E Case, Foster Care
Title Search	A check of the records in a county recorder's office to determine what liens affect the ownership of a property.			Abstract of Title; Preliminary Title Report	Real Property Liens	
Total Aid Paid	Total amount of aid (assistance grant) paid to an assistance unit.		LCSA glossary		Financial	Unreimbursed Assistance Pool
Tribal IV-A Program	A TANF program administered by a federally recognized Indian tribe or tribal organization.		OCSE glossary	Tribal TANF		
Tribal IV-D Program	A child support program administered by a federally recognized Indian tribe or tribal organization and funded under title IV-D of the Social Security Act.		OCSE glossary			
Tribal Organizations	Organizations run by Native American tribes.		OCSE glossary			
Tribe	Any Indian or Alaskan Native tribe, band, nation, pueblo, village, or community the Secretary of the Interior acknowledges to exist as an Indian tribe and includes in the list of federally recognized Indian tribal governments.		OCSE glossary	Indian Tribe		
Tribunal	A court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial entity or agency authorized to establish, enforce, or modify support orders or to determine parentage.		OCSE glossary; Title 22, Division 13, Section 110858		Interstate	
Two-State Action	Action a state must file under the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) when it does not have Long Arm Jurisdiction (that is, it cannot legally claim personal jurisdiction over a noncustodial parent who lives in another state). This usually occurs in cases where a state is trying to establish paternity or an initial child support order on behalf of a custodial party.		OCSE glossary	Two-State Case	Interstate	Initiating Jurisdiction; Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
U UIFSA Initiating State	In an interstate case, the state where the custodial party and the children live and which sends a request for action to another state.		DCSS Legal		Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act; Initiating Jurisdiction; Responding Jurisdiction

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U UIFSA Responding State	In an interstate case, the state where the noncustodial parent lives and which has jurisdiction over a noncustodial parent or child support order that has received a request for support services from a UIFSA initiating state.		DCSS Legal		Interstate	Responding Jurisdiction
Unassigned During Assistance Arrearages	Unpaid support in former assistance cases that accrued while the family was receiving aid (permanently assigned arrearages), but which exceeded the total unreimbursed assistance pool (UAP).	UDA	MPP 12-405 (u)(1)		Financial	
Unassigned Pre-Assistance Arrearages	Unpaid support in former aid cases that accrued before a family was receiving aid (temporarily assigned arrearages) and which exceed the total unreimbursed assistance pool (UAP).		MPP 12-405 (u)(2)		Financial	
Unborn/Child Dependent	An unborn child is not mandated to be included in the assistance unit, nor have support rights been established for the unborn child, the county welfare department must defer sending child support referrals for pregnant women and minor parent cases to the LCSA until after the child is born.		ACIN I-39-06		Case Management	
Unclaimed Funds	A support payment that cannot be disbursed because the identity of the payor is unknown, or the case information is unknown, or the address of the payee is unknown.		OCSE glossary		Financial	Suspense
Undistributed Collections	Child support payments that have been collected by child support agencies but have not yet been sent to custodial parents or other government agencies or returned to noncustodial parents.		OCSE glossary		Financial	Suspense
Unemployment Insurance File	Data on unemployment insurance and applicants/claimants submitted by State Workforce Agencies (SWAs) on a quarterly basis to the National Directory of New Hires (NDNH) including the employee's name, address, Social Security Number (SSN), the benefit amount, and reporting period.		A Guide to the National Directory of New Hires ¹ acf.hhs.gov		Enforcement	State Workforce Agencies; National Directory of New Hires
Uniform Interstate Family Support Act	Law enacted by all states that provides mechanisms for establishing and enforcing child support obligations in interstate cases (when a noncustodial parent lives in a different state from the child and the custodial party). Among the law's provisions is ability of state child support agencies to send withholding orders to employers across state lines. (UIFSA does not apply to tribes.)	UIFSA	OCSE glossary		Interstate	Income Withholding, Continuing Exclusive Jurisdiction, Long Arm Jurisdiction, Two-State Action

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Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
U Uniform Parentage Act	That part of the Family Code known as Division 12, part 3, which includes Family Code Sections 7600 to 7730, and addresses the establishment of the parent and child relationship.	UPA	FC 7600-7730		Case Management	Parentage
Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act	Law first promulgated in 1950 which provides a mechanism for establishing, enforcing, and modifying support obligations in interstate cases and which has now been superceded by the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA).	URESA	OCSE acf.hhs.gov		Interstate	Uniform Interstate Family Support Act
United States Code	A compilation of federal laws.		US Code of Regulations		General	
Unreimbursed Assistance Pool	The cumulative amount of assistance money paid to the family for all months, which has not been repaid by assigned child support payments collected.	UAP	OCSE glossary	Unreimbursed Public Assistance	Financial	Total Aid Paid, Recoupment
Unsecured Assets	Assets which are owned "free and clear," in which no one has a security interest		LCSA glossary	Unencumbered Assets	Case Management	Assets; Unsecured Debt
Unsecured Debt	Debt for which property or other asset or security was not pledged for the satisfaction of the debt.		Legal	Unencumbered Assets	Financial	Secured Debt; Unsecured Assets
V Vacate	To cancel, annul, or set aside, as in to set aside a judgment.		DCSS Legal	Set Aside	Legal	
Visitation	The right of a noncustodial parent to visit or spend time with his or her children.		OCSE glossary		Case Management	Custody
Vital Statistics	Information at state or county departments regarding births, deaths, fetal deaths, still births, marriages, and divorces.		dhs.ca.gov		Case Management	Office of Vital Records
Vocational Rehabilitation Maintenance Allowance	Formerly a Workers' Compensation benefit payment, made to a qualified injured worker who is unable to return to his/her former type of work, to subsidize mileage and costs of participating in a re-training program and provide partial wage replacement to the injured worker. CCR Sections 10122-10133.22 were repealed 2-25-2009		Title 9, Division 4, Sections 10122-10133.22		Enforcement	Workers Compensation
Voluntary Acknowledgement of Paternity	An acknowledgment by a man, or both parents, that the man is the father of a child, usually provided in writing on an affidavit or form.		OCSE glossary	Acknowledgment of Paternity, Declaration of Paternity, Paternity Declaration; POP Dec	Case Management	

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V Voluntary Payments	Support payments received from the noncustodial parent in Title IV-D cases where there is no court ordered obligation. These payments must be treated as the obligation for the current month in the month they are received.		MPP 12-405 (v)		Financial	
W W-2 Form	A wage and tax statement that shows the names of the employer and employee, the wages that were paid to the employee, and the taxes that were withheld from the wages for the year.		www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-w2		Case Management	
Wage Assignment	A voluntary agreement by an employee to transfer (or assign) portions of future wage payments to pay certain debts, such as child support.		OCSE glossary			Order/Notice to Withhold Income for Child Support
Wage Attachment	An involuntary transfer of a portion of an employee's wage payment to satisfy a debt. In some states this term is used interchangeably with Wage or Income Withholding; in other states there are distinctions between an attachment and withholding. The most common terms used are Wage or Income Withholding.		OCSE glossary			Income Withholding, Wage Withholding
Wage Withholding	A procedure by which scheduled deductions are automatically made from wages or income to pay an obligation, such as child support. The provision dictates that an employer must withhold support from a noncustodial parent's wages and transfer that withholding to the appropriate agency (the Centralized Collection Unit or State Disbursement Unit). Also known as income withholding.		OCSE glossary	Income Withholding		Income Withholding, Wage Attachment, Garnishment, Direct Income Withholding
Ward of the Court	A minor who is being supervised by the juvenile court after a finding that he/she has violated any state or federal law, or any city or county ordinance, other than for a curfew based on age.		W&I 602		Legal	Foster Care
Warrant	A voucher authorizing payment of money; an order similar to a bank check, commonly used by government agencies.		LCSA glossary		General	Lost Warrant Affidavit; Returned Warrant
Welfare and Institutions Code	Codified area of state law that addresses welfare and institutions providing social services.	W&I	LCSA Glossary		General	
Welfare Department	Generally, the office providing IV-A and IV-E services in each county.		LCSA Glossary	IV-A Agency; IV-E Agency	General	California Health and Human Services Agency, County Welfare Department

¹ The glossary provides a common program language which should help Local Child Support Agencies provide standardized, uniform and consistent services statewide.

Child Support Program Glossary ¹

Term	Definition	Acronym	Source	Also Known As	Category	See Also
W Welfare Fraud	A criminal act of willful noncompliance with statutory regulations pertaining to recipients of public assistance; or providing misinformation on required welfare eligibility forms which result in improper receipt of public assistance payments.		LCSA glossary		General	
Welfare Referral	A referral of CalWORKs, Foster Care, or Medically Needy Only recipient to the LCSA from the county welfare department.		Title 22, Division 13, Section 112100(e)		Case Management	California Health and Human Services Agency, County Welfare Department
Work Search Order	A court order that directs the noncustodial parent to submit to the Local Child Support Agency or to the court, every two weeks, or other frequency deemed by the court, a list of at least five different places the NCP has applied for employment. May also be known as "seek work order" or "job search order".		FC 4505	Seek Work Order; Job Search Order	Enforcement	
Workers' Compensation	A state insurance program financed through employer contributions to provide compensation to eligible workers who are unable to work due to a work-related injury.		www.dir.ca.gov		Enforcement	
Workers' Compensation Appeals Board	The board that renders decisions on claims filed by injured workers.	WCAB	www.dir.ca.gov/wcab/wcab.htm		Enforcement	
Workers' Compensation Lien	A lien filed with the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board (WCAB) to seize the money paid to the injured worker for unpaid child or spousal support that accrued since the date of an obligor's injury.		DCSS Legal		Enforcement	

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