

DATE: November 17, 2000

TO: Financial Institution Contact Person for  
Data Match with Child Support Enforcement

FROM: Daryl D. Wusk, Administrator  
Nebraska Child Support Enforcement

RE: Agreement with the State of Nebraska Child Support Enforcement for  
Financial Institution Data Matching

Nearly one half of all children receive minimal or no support from their noncustodial parent. This is true even with the wide range of child support enforcement remedies available. There is a need to continue to expand the availability of additional enforcement tools. One such tool is Financial Institution Data Match (FIDM). The purpose of FIDM is to find accounts of parents who are delinquent in paying their child support obligation. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-3328 to 43-3339 (Reissue 1998) authorizes the development and operation of this data match program in Nebraska.

A brief overview of the Nebraska process is that on a quarterly basis, Nebraska financial institutions will receive a file containing the names and social security numbers of approximately 40,000 people that are delinquent in their child support obligations. The financial institutions will then conduct a match against their own files and return the matched information to the state.

Federal and state laws require states to enter into agreements with the financial institutions doing business in their state. Enclosed you will find the agreement that the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services is sending to Nebraska financial institutions. If you prefer an electronic copy of the agreement, please e-mail the request to [judy.manhas@hss.state.ne.us](mailto:judy.manhas@hss.state.ne.us).

The content of the agreement is based upon the experience of other states as well as information received from a survey that was sent to Nebraska financial institutions in December, 1999. The start date of the enclosed agreement is December 1, 2000. This will allow for some testing time before we send the first inquiry file to your financial institution the third or fourth week of January. If this start date is not agreeable with you, or if you have questions or other concerns about the agreement, call Judy Manhas at (402) 479-5545.

Please return the completed and signed agreement as soon as possible. Mail to:

Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services  
Child Support Enforcement  
Attn: Judy Manhas  
P.O. Box 94728  
Lincoln, NE 68509

While federal and state laws allow the state to reimburse financial institutions for reasonable costs associated with this program, please consider the possibility of absorbing this cost as part of your banking operations. Nationwide, many financial institutions are not billing the states because of the purpose of the data match, which is to assure that children receive the financial support that they are due from their parents. As of this date, the following Nebraska financial institutions have waived both the implementation and quarterly fees for the in-state matching program:

Commercial Bank—Bassett,  
First National Bank—Beemer,  
State Bank—Benkelman,  
South Central State Bank—Campbell,  
Fremont First Central FCU—Fremont,  
The Equitable Building and Loan Association of Grand Island,  
Union Bank & Trust Company and Burlington Credit Union, both of Lincoln,  
Metropolitan Building & Loan Association—Omaha,  
Pleasanton State Bank—Pleasanton, and  
Jones National Bank & Trust Company—Seward

Others have waived either the implementation fee or the quarterly fee.

We are very appreciative when fees are waived! The reimbursement cost for one financial institution does not seem like a large amount. However, the annual cost to the state becomes quite large when the amount to be paid is multiplied by the large number of financial institutions in Nebraska. If all Nebraska financial institutions are reimbursed at the rate indicated by the results of the survey, the cost of implementation will be \$695,483. Reimbursement for quarterly costs will be \$122,308 per quarter or \$489,232 annually.

The federal website with additional information is <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cse/fct/fidm/index.htm>. The data specifications for electronic matching can be found there as well.

Again, if you have questions about the agreement or Financial Institution Data Match in general, please contact Judy Manhas.