



F.Y.I.

from the Policy Unit

FYI-166

Date: March 6, 2018

SUBJECT: Kansas and Step Down Orders - AMENDED

Please contact the Policy Unit if you have any questions regarding these or any other changes at DCSS.POLICYQUESTIONS@azdes.gov or call 602-771-8127

As a result of the 1979 Brady vs. Brady Supreme Court ruling, Kansas utilizes step down orders that reduce the current support amount, without court intervention, as each child reaches 18 years of age (the age of majority in KS). Upon receipt of a Kansas support order, review the order to see if it addresses how child support is to be divided among the children.

- If there are no instructions in the order, set it up on the SUOD (Support Order Detail) screen as a per child order and place a “Y” in the Equal Amounts field. ATLAS automatically updates the Amount Per Child field.
- When the support amounts are not equally divided among the children, update the SUOD screen as a per child order but enter an “N” in the Equal Amounts field. Update the Amt/Child field in the fourth panel of the SUOD screen with the support amount for each child. The amounts on panel four must match the total amount of current support on panel one. For instance, the current support order is for 750.00 for two children. The order is reduced to 450.00/month when the oldest child emancipates. The amounts on panel four will be \$300.00 for the oldest child and \$450.00 for the youngest child to equal the total amount of \$750.00 on panel one.
- Look for the activity code M9808 CHILD ON PER CHILD ORDER IS EMANCIPATING which generates when a child on the order turns 18 years of age. This code creates the work list item M0908 CHILD ON PER CHILD ORDER EMANC/BEG MOD. The debt team must calculate the amount for each child that emancipates except for the last child. This will ensure the correct amounts will report on the OCSE 157 Report.

When Kansas receives a UIFSA packet from another state requesting registration and modification of an out of state order, the order entered by Kansas will become a step down order based on their child support guidelines. There is an equal split for each child when the order does not address the per child breakdown. For example, if an Arizona support order for \$700.00/month for three children is registered and modified by Kansas to \$900.00/month, the first child to attain the age of majority will have a step down of an equal split of 1/3 for a new support amount of \$600.00/month for the two remaining children. However, Kansas must continue to follow the issuing state’s age of majority for the duration of child support.

