

**SUBJECT:** Offsetting Unemployment Benefits in Oklahoma – Process Changes Please contact the Policy Unit if you have any questions regarding these or any other changes at <a href="mailto:DCSS POLICYQUESTIONS@azdes.gov">DCSS POLICYQUESTIONS@azdes.gov</a> or call 602-771-8127

The purpose of this F.Y.I. is to inform staff that effective November 1, 2021, the process by which offset unemployment benefits paid in Oklahoma will be changing. At the request of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission (OESC), state law governing this process was amended in the legislative session.

With, the change in state law, OESC will no longer accept or process direct withholding orders. Compliance with withholding orders will now be facilitated by the IV-D program. In the interest of continuity of service, please begin converting affected cases to intergovernmental cases at your earliest convenience. OESC will stop paying on existing withholding orders and not process new orders beginning November 1<sup>st</sup>.

When Division of Child Support Services (DCSS) staff are seeking enforcement by collection from Oklahoma unemployment benefits. They must send a full-service intergovernmental referral to the Oklahoma Intergovernmental Central Registry and note on the referral documents that the noncustodial parent is receiving unemployment benefits.

Refer to the Intergovernmental Reference Guide (IRG) under Oklahoma state, section G. Withholding G8.1. Take this hyperlink for <u>additional information</u> on the law governing this process.

DCSS colleagues are urged to view this information directly on The PORT and not create a separate personal file.

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