
DCSE Policy & Procedures Unit
Policy Update
PPU 08-09-007
September 25, 2008
SUBJECT: Cash Medical Support

**Please contact the Policy Unit if you have any questions regarding these or any other changes at
*DCSE-POLICYQUESTIONS, CSE.POLICY or (602) 771-8127.**

The IV-D PARTNERS should send POLICY inquiries directly to DCSE-POLICYQUESTIONS@azdes.gov

House Bill 2505 requires the court, in a IV-D case, to include a cash medical support obligation with child support orders. The requirement to include a cash medical support obligation will begin on September 26, 2008.

The following Policy statements support the legislative changes:

- A. Cash Medical Support is a monthly obligation for support, for which the non-custodial parent is responsible as ordered by the court. The cash medical support order may be effective on the date of the court order or may be an alternative order to be paid in the event that private medical insurance is no longer accessible and available at a reasonable cost. The cash medical support amount will be determined by the court and cannot exceed 5% of the non-custodial parent's income.
- B. "Reasonable Cost" is defined as an amount that does not exceed 5% of the obligated party's gross income.
- C. If the custodial parent is ordered to provide private medical insurance, the non-custodial parent may be ordered to pay an alternative cash medical support in the event that private medical insurance is no longer accessible and available at a reasonable cost.
- D. If the obligor is ordered to provide private medical insurance, the obligor shall also be ordered to pay an alternative cash medical support amount if private insurance coverage for the child is not obtained within ninety (90) days after entry of the order or in the event that private medical insurance is no longer accessible and available at a reasonable cost.
- E. If neither party has private medical insurance accessible and available at a reasonable cost, the court should order the obligor to pay cash medical support or make written findings why that would not be proper and one parent will be ordered to provide medical insurance when it becomes accessible and available at a reasonable cost.

These Policy Statements and additional Policy regarding the new legislative changes can be found in **OPPM** under the **Medical Support Enforcement Policy** in the Enforcement of Support section and under the **Medical Support Policy** in the Establishment of Support section.

Staff are urged to view this information directly on OPPM and not create a separate personal file. Click on the link <http://dcsepc>. You will find this Policy Update in Policy Updates 2008.