

The Ask

"That the [Panel] . . . shall . . . make recommendations to the General Assembly about measures the General Assembly can consider...."



The Ask

Regarding

- 1. whether existing penalties that place restrictions on . . . drivers licenses or other professional restrictions <u>unnecessarily impair</u> the obligor's ability to repay outstanding child support arrearages.
- 2. helping obligors pay arrearages.



whether . . . penalties . . . on . . . licenses or other professional restrictions unnecessarily impair . . . ability to pay



Data

Occupational and Professional Suspension.

• We were unable to confirm an instance of suspension during a recent, five-year period.

Driver's License Suspension.

- As of June 30, 2025, we serve 192,690 parents who are obligated to pay support.
- From June 1, 2024, to May 31, 2025, DCSE suspended 8,381 driver's licenses.



Current Options

Va. Code § 42.2-320.1 permits suspension when a person "is delinquent in the payment of child support by 90 days or more or in an amount of \$5,000 or more."

To lift suspension:

- 1. Pay the child support arrearages in full
- 2. Enter into a payment agreement with the Division
- 3. Complete or successfully participate in a court or administrative intensive case monitoring program
- 4. Obtain a restricted license from a court



Recommendations to the GA

Is the Panel comfortable with the current statutory framework?

Does the Panel want to make any recommendations to the General Assembly?

Helping obligors pay



Data

Five years of collections (2019-2023) were over **\$3.2 billion**.

As of April 2025, after **50 years of the program**, arrearages stood at **\$2.9** billion.

88% of the \$2.9B is owed to families.

66% of the \$2.9B is principal.

Va. Code § 6.2-302 sets interest at 6% for all judgments.

It is less than a current 30-year fixed-rate mortgage.



Family Engagement Services (FES)

FES case managers help by:

- Designing a case action plan with each parent
- Connecting parents to help in the community
- Helping parents learn job skills and get ready for work
- Checking in often to see how things are going
- Helping parents ask for changes to their child support if needed
- Helping lower TANF debt for parents who qualify



Family Engagement Services (FES)

In the State Fiscal year 2025,

- FES helped 1,009 parents each month
- FES collected over \$2 million in child support

Future Employment Services?

The Administration for Children & Families has observed:

The best economic support is a job.

The best social support is a family.

Employment and Training Services for Noncustodial Parents in the Child Support Program Final Rule (December 13, 2024)



Employment and Training Services (E&T)

- Job search assistance
- Job readiness training
- Job development and job placement services
- Skills assessments to facilitate job placement
- Job retention services
- Work supports, such as transportation assistance, uniforms, and tools; and
- Occupational training and other skills training directly related to employment, which may also include activities to improve literacy and basic skills, such as programs to complete high school or a high school equivalency certificate, or English as a second language.
- Case management to support the items above



Statewide Requirement

States electing to provide employment and training services using FFP must make at least a minimum level of services available statewide.

These services . . . could be <u>virtual job readiness trainings that individuals could</u> access online." (89 Fed. Reg. 100,800.)



Recommendations to the GA

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