



Celebrating 50 Years of the Child Support Program

by the Office of Child Support Services

Let's cut straight to the exciting news—the child support program celebrates its 50th anniversary this year! And in half a century, the program has evolved a lot. It's made big strides to become a more inclusive, family-centered, and service-oriented program.

Many child support programs now operate or promote initiatives that connect parents to important services so they can develop strong and healthy relationships with their children. They also operate employment and training programs that help noncustodial parents find jobs. Many also have reentry partnerships that help formerly incarcerated parents reintegrate into their communities.

Today we have over 60 tribal child support programs that provide services to families that are consistent with their values and cultures. And to help families living outside the United States, OCSS has an international service that streamlines outgoing child support payments.

Our national child support program understands that the whole family thrives when child support payments are consistent. So, many state and tribal agencies have guidelines that consider the noncustodial parent's income when setting the payment amount. This makes it easier for the noncustodial parent to make regular child support payments and allows the custodial parent to plan based on consistent income to provide for their child.

How you celebrate

Our theme for this milestone year is *Celebrating 50 Years of Child Support: Advancing a Family-Centered Approach*. To celebrate the progress of the program, we're launching a 50th-anniversary landing page as a hub for content that you can share, including:

- **An anniversary video:** We created a kickoff video that highlights the evolution of the child support program. We'll post other videos throughout the year.
- **History:** Take a look at legislative milestones throughout our program's history and data that shows their impact.
- **How Child Support Works handout:** Read about services offered by the child support program.
- **Social media toolkit:** Promote the 50th anniversary by using our toolkit to post on social media. We'll also post a special social media toolkit to help you promote Child Support Awareness Month in August.
- **Blog series:** This blog is the first in a yearlong series highlighting accomplishments and our movement toward a family-centered program.

Keep an eye out for the launch of this page by visiting <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css>.

Stay up to date with how we're celebrating throughout the year by signing up for our monthly [Child Support Report newsletter](#).



Membership Matters