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How Much Restored Child Support Funding Will Each State Receive Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act?

By Vicki Turetsky
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The child support enforcement program is a major part of the safety net for struggling families. One in four children—17 million—receive child support services. Families quickly spend their child support income to pay for basic needs, shoring up consumer demand for goods and services, and preserving jobs in the community. The child support program is cost-effective: it collects \$6 for every federal dollar invested.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act includes \$1 billion to temporarily suspend a provision in the Deficit Reduction Act of 2006 that reduced federal child support funding by 20 percent. The DRA eliminated the longstanding federal match on incentive payments that states earn and reinvest in the program based on their performance rates. This funding will be available to states and counties through September 30, 2010. The funding will allow families to continue to receive child support payments and prevent imminent cutbacks in the child support program.

The following table shows the approximate amount of federal matching funds that the state can now draw down during next two years.

State	Additional funds state could receive during 2-year period from restored performance incentive matching funds (\$ millions)
Alabama	16.5
Alaska	6.8
Arizona	22.1
Arkansas	14.5
California	154.5
Colorado	19.1
Connecticut	16.1
Delaware	4.9
District of Columbia	3.0
Florida	100.1
Georgia	43.2
Guam	0.4
Hawaii	6.0
Idaho	9.6

Illinois	37.0
Indiana	31.8
Iowa	27.2
Kansas	13.1
Kentucky	28.8
Louisiana	24.0
Maine	8.4
Maryland	29.2
Massachusetts	35.2
Michigan	104.1
Minnesota	47.6
Mississippi	12.9
Missouri	41.2
Montana	4.2
Nebraska	10.3
Nevada	7.9
New Hampshire	7.1
New Jersey	63.3
New Mexico	4.6
New York	101.0
North Carolina	52.7
North Dakota	6.5
Ohio	114.4
Oklahoma	16.3
Oregon	22.2
Pennsylvania	99.5
Puerto Rico	13.0
Rhode Island	4.6
South Carolina	13.3
South Dakota	5.9
Tennessee	32.0
Texas	160.7
Utah	13.3
Vermont	3.9
Virginia	40.4
Virgin Islands	0.4
Washington	49.2
West Virginia	15.4
Wisconsin	52.8
Wyoming	4.7

Source: CLASP calculation based on OCSE 2006 data (latest available). Amounts are based on the maximum amount of federal matching funds available to match two full years of incentive payments, and do not take into account any match received on state and county funds.