

November 9, 2018

TO: Judges, Commissioners, County Clerks, Court Administrators, Libraries, Attorneys, and the Public

FROM: Merrie Gough, AOC Sr. Legal Analyst

RE: Updates to Family Law child support forms – effective 1/1/2019

**Updated child support forms**: The Washington Pattern Forms Committee approved updates to the child support forms listed below. The changes are based upon recommended changes and [Laws of 2018, ch. 150](http://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2017-18/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/Senate/6334-S.SL.pdf) (SSB 6334), §§ 301 and 401, which amended RCW 26.19.020 and RCW 26.19.065, respectively:

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| 1. | WSCSS-Schedule | Washington State Child Support Schedule – definitions, standards, instructions, and economic table |
| 2. | WSCSS-Worksheets | Washington State Child Support Schedule Worksheets |
| 3. | FL All Family 130 | Child Support Order |
| 4. | FL Modify 501 | Petition to Modify Child Support |
| 5. | FL Modify 510 | Final Order and Findings on Petition to Modify |

**Major changes**: The changes include:

* A new Economic Table (new basic child support obligation amounts and removal of columns A = AGE 0-11 and B = AGE 12-18—there is only one column and one amount for children age 0 – 18 per category).
* A clarification that the presumptive minimum support and self-support reserve are based upon 125% of the federal poverty level *for a one-person family*.
* An updated Approximate Median Net Monthly Income Table, which is part of the Washington State Child Support Schedule Instructions.

**Effective date**: The changes become effective January 1, 2019.

**Time to prepare**: The changes are published now to give the legal community and vendors time to update forms and child support calculation programs.

The table beginning on the next page contains detailed descriptions of the changes:

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| Form number | Form title and description |
| WSCSS-Schedule | Washington State Child Support Schedule – definitions, standards, instructions, and economic table  On the cover page, change the section effective dates as follows:  Definitions & Standards ~~July 24, 2015~~January 1, 2019  Instructions - only ~~June 7, 2018~~January 1, 2019  Economic Table ~~October 1, 2009~~January 1, 2019  Worksheets ~~July 24, 2015~~January 1, 2019  Definitions & Standards:  On page 3, in the Definitions & Standards, under the heading “2. Presumptive minimum support obligation,” change:  “…125% of the federal poverty guidelines…”  To:  “…125% of the federal poverty guidelines for a one-person family…”  On page 3, in the Definitions & Standards, under the heading “3. Self-support reserve,” change:  “…125% of the federal poverty level…”  To:  “…125% of the federal poverty level for a one-person family…”  Instructions for Worksheets (beginning on page 6)  Below the heading “**Worksheets**,” change the text as follows:  Immediately below the form title, check the box showing if the worksheets are proposed or an order signed by the judge. If they are proposed, check the box showing who proposed them and put your name.  Fill in your county, the case number, and the names and ages of only those children whose support is at issue.  Write your name above “(Column 1)” and write the other parent’s name above “(Column 2).” In the rest of the worksheet, list your information under “Column 1” and list the other parent’s information under “Column 2.”  Below the heading “**Gross Monthly Income**:”  In the instruction for LINE 1a, Wages and Salaries,” change the RCW citation from “RCW 26.19.071(4) (h)” to “RCW 26.19.071(4) (i).”  Below the heading “Approximate Median Net Monthly Income,” change the table and the first paragraph below the new table as follows:  “**Approximate Median Net Monthly Income**  ~~MALE age FEMALE~~  ~~$1,832 15-24 $1,632~~  ~~$2,804 25-34 $2,446~~  ~~$3,448 35-44 $2,693~~  ~~$3,569 45-54 $2,714~~  ~~$3,735 55-64 $2,814~~  ~~$4,084 65 + $2,960~~  MALE age FEMALE  $2,088 15-24 $1,934  $3,243 25-34 $2,816  $4,098 35-44 $3,321  $4,232 45-54 $3,365  $4,318 55-64 $3,288  $4,972 65 + $3,858  U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, ~~2009~~2018 Annual Social and Economic Supplement, Table PINC-01. Selected Characteristics of People 15 Years Old and Over by Total Money Income in ~~2008~~2017, Work Experience in ~~2008~~2017, Race, Hispanic Origin, and Sex, Worked Full Time, Year Round.”  Change the instruction for LINE 2c, State Industrial Insurance Deductions as follows:  **“Enter the monthly amount of state industrial insurance deductions~~.~~** such as Medical Aid Fund Tax, Accident Fund Tax, and Supplement Pension Fund Tax. Self-insured employers may use different terms for the deductions.”  Below the heading “Economic Table Instructions,” change the text of the second bullet from:   * **Locate on the top row the family size for the number of children for whom child support is being determined** (when determining family size for the required worksheets, do not include child(ren) from other relationships); and **circle the two numbers in the columns listed below the family size that are across from the net income**.The amount in the “A” column is the basic support amount for a child up to age 11. The amount in the “B” column is the basic support amount for a child 12 years of age or older.”   To:   * **Locate on the top row the family size for the number of children for whom child support is being determined** (when determining family size for the required worksheets, do not include child(ren) from other relationships) and **circle the number in the column below the family size that is across from the net income**.The amount circled is the basic support amount for each child.   In the instruction for LINE 8, **Calculating low income limitations**, change the first two lines as follows:  “To calculate the low-income limitation standards in lines 8b and 8c, you will need to know the self-support reserve amount, which is 125% of the current federal poverty guideline for a one-person family. As of January ~~20, 2011~~1, 2019, the self-support reserve is ~~$1,134~~$1,265.”  In the instruction for LINE 24, change the title as follows:  “**~~Child Support Owed, Monthly, for Biological or Legal Child(ren)~~Monthly Child Support Ordered for Other Children**”  Delete the entire Washington State Child Support Schedule Economic Table, and replace it with the new table in Laws of 2018, ch. 150 (SSB 6334), § 301. |
| WSCSS-Worksheets | Washington State Child Support Schedule Worksheets  Below the Form title in the check box that begins with “(name),” make the line for the name longer. Delete the check box and line for “Other.”  After the title and before the table, for “Parents’ names,” move “(Column 1)” and “(Column 2)” so they are below the line to which they apply. See below:  “Parents’ Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  (Column 1) (Column 2)”  In the Table in section 2, Monthly Deductions from Gross Income, in line 2i. move “(add lines 2a through 2h)” up to the end of the first line:  “i. Total Deductions from Gross Income (add lines 2a through 2h)”  Change section “5. Basic Child Support Obligation” from:  “Basic Child Support Obligation (enter total amount in box →)  Child #1 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Child #3 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Child #5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Child #2 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Child #4 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”  To:  “Basic Child Support Obligation  Number of children: \_\_\_\_\_\_ x $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ per child  (enter total amount in box →)”  In section “8. Calculating low income limitations,” after “Self-Support Reserve,” change the definition of self-support reserve in parentheses as follows:  "(125% of the federal poverty guideline for a one-person family.)”  In Part VIII, Additional Factors For Consideration, in line 24, change the heading from:  “Child Support Owed, Monthly, for Biological or Legal Child(ren)”  To:  “Monthly Child Support Ordered for Other Children” |
| FL All Family 130 | Child Support Order  In section “10. Monthly child support amount (transfer payment),” in the first check box option below the table, delete the check box about the child turning 12:  ~~Child turning twelve years old – The monthly amount for~~ *~~(child’s name)~~* ~~will~~  ~~change to $ starting with the month this child turns twelve~~ *~~(month, year):~~* ~~.~~ |

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| FL Modify 501 | Petition to Modify Child Support  In section “6. Should the court modify the monthly child support amount?” below the check box “Yes” and the second sub-check box “1 year or more has passed,” delete the second sub-sub-check box:  “ ~~a child has turned 12 and has the right to more support.~~” |
| FL Modify 510 | Final Order and Findings on Petition to Modify  In section “4. Should the court modify the monthly child support amount?” below the check box “Yes” and the second sub-check box “1 year or more has passed,” delete the second sub-sub-check box:  “ ~~a child has turned 12 and has the right to more support.~~” |