

**441—95.14(252B) Termination of services.****95.14(1) Case closure criteria.**

a. The child support recovery unit may terminate services when the case meets at least one of the following case closure criteria and the child support recovery unit maintains supporting documentation for the case closure decision in the record:

(1) There is no ongoing support obligation, and arrearages are under \$500 or unenforceable under state law.

(2) The noncustodial parent or alleged father is deceased, and no further action, including a levy against the estate, can be taken.

(3) The noncustodial parent is living with the minor child as the primary caregiver, the custodial parent is deceased, and there is no assignment to the state of support or of arrearages that accrued under the support order.

(4) The child support recovery unit cannot establish paternity because:

1. The child is at least 18 years old and the statute of limitations bars an action to establish paternity;

2. A genetic test or a court or administrative process has excluded the alleged father and no other alleged father can be identified;

3. The child support recovery unit has determined that it would not be in the best interest of the child to establish paternity in a case that involves incest or rape or a case in which legal proceedings for adoption are pending; or

4. The identity of the biological father is unknown and cannot be identified after diligent efforts, including at least one interview by the child support recovery unit with the recipient of services.

(5) The noncustodial parent's location is unknown and the child support recovery unit has made diligent efforts to locate the noncustodial parent using multiple sources, in accordance with regulations in 45 CFR 303.3 as amended to September 1, 2022, all of which have been unsuccessful, within the applicable time frame:

1. Over a three-year period when there is sufficient information to initiate an automated locate effort.

2. Over a one-year period when there is not sufficient information to initiate an automated locate effort.

(6) The child support recovery unit has determined that, throughout the duration of the child's minority (or after the child has reached the age of majority), the noncustodial parent cannot pay support and shows no evidence of support potential because the parent has been institutionalized in a psychiatric facility, is incarcerated, or has a medically verified total and permanent disability. The child support recovery unit must also determine that the noncustodial parent has no income or assets available above the subsistence level that could be levied or attached for support.

(7) The noncustodial parent's sole income is from supplemental security income (SSI) payments.

(8) The noncustodial parent is a citizen of and lives in a foreign country, does not work for the federal government or a company with headquarters or offices in the United States, and has no reachable domestic income or assets, and there is no federal or state treaty or reciprocity with the country.

(9) In a case involving child support services to a person who is not a recipient of public assistance, the child support recovery unit has provided location-only services.

(10) The child support recovery unit has received a written or verbal request from the recipient of services to close the case, and there is no assignment to the state of support or of arrearages that accrued under the support order.

(11) In a case involving child support services to a recipient of public assistance, there has been a finding of good cause or other exception in a public assistance case as specified in 441—subrules 41.22(8) through 41.22(12) and 441—subrule 75.14(3), including a determination that support enforcement may not proceed without risk or harm to the child or caretaker relative.

(12) In a case involving child support services to a person who is not a recipient of public assistance or who is a recipient of public assistance receiving Medicaid only, the child support recovery unit has received information that the address in the unit's record is no longer current and the unit is unable to contact or otherwise locate the recipient within 60 days following receipt of this information, despite a good-faith effort to contact the recipient through at least two different methods.

(13) In a case involving child support services to a person who is not a recipient of public assistance or who is a recipient of public assistance receiving Medicaid only, the recipient of services has failed to cooperate with the child support recovery unit, which documented the circumstances of the noncooperation, and an action by the recipient of services is essential for the next step in providing services. (See rule 441—95.19(252B).)

(14) The child support recovery unit documents failure by the initiating agency, as defined under 45 CFR 301.1 as amended to September 1, 2022, to take an action that is essential for the next step in providing services.

(15) The initiating agency, as defined under 45 CFR 301.1 as amended to September 1, 2022, has notified the child support recovery unit that the initiating agency has closed its case.

(16) The initiating agency, as defined under 45 CFR 301.1 as amended to September 1, 2022, has notified the child support recovery unit that its intergovernmental services are no longer needed.

(17) Another assistance program, including IV-A, IV-E, SNAP, and Medicaid, has referred to the child support recovery unit a case for which it is inappropriate to establish, enforce, or continue to enforce a child support order and the custodial or noncustodial parent has not applied for child support services.

(18) The case meets any other basis for case closure based upon federal law.

*b.* The child support recovery unit may terminate services when no support or arrearages that accrued under the support order are assigned to the state and the recipient of services requested the child support recovery unit to close the case to allow the tribal IV-D agency to start providing services under that program.

*c.* The child support recovery unit must close a case and maintain supporting documentation for the case closure decision when the following criteria have been met:

(1) The child support recovery unit is notified that the child is eligible for health care services from the Indian Health Service (IHS); and

1. The IV-D case was opened because of a Medicaid referral based solely upon health care services, including the Purchased/Referred Care Program, provided through an Indian health program (as defined at 25 U.S.C. 1603(12)); and

2. The recipient of services requested the child support recovery unit to close the case.

(2) The child support recovery unit receives instructions for case closure from an initiating agency, as defined under 45 CFR 301.1 as amended to September 1, 2022. Within ten working days, the child support recovery unit must stop the income withholding order or notice and close the intergovernmental IV-D case.

**95.14(2) Case closure notifications.** In cases meeting one of the criteria of subrule 95.14(1), except subparagraph 95.14(1)“a”(9), (10), or (11), the child support recovery unit shall send notification of its intent to close the case to the recipient of services or the initiating agency, as defined under 45 CFR 301.1 as amended to September 1, 2022, in writing 60 calendar days before case closure. The notice shall be sent to the recipient of services or the state requesting services at the last-known address stating the reason for denying or terminating services, the effective date, and an explanation of the right to request a hearing according to 441—Chapter 7. Closure of the case following notification is subject to the following:

*a.* If in response to the notice, the recipient of services or the initiating agency, as defined under 45 CFR 301.1 as amended to September 1, 2022, supplies information which could lead to the establishment of paternity or a support order or enforcement of an order, the case shall be kept open.

*b.* If the case is to be closed because the child support recovery unit was unable to contact the recipient of services as provided in subparagraph 95.14(1)“a”(12), the case shall be kept open if contact is reestablished with the recipient of services before the effective date of the closure.

*c.* The recipient of services may request to have the child support recovery unit reopen the case at a later date if there is a change in circumstances which could lead to the establishment of paternity or a support order or enforcement of an order by completing a new application and paying any applicable fee.

*d.* For notices under this subrule, if the recipient of services specifically authorizes consent for electronic notifications, the child support recovery unit may elect to notify the recipient of services electronically of the child support recovery unit’s intent to close the case. The child support recovery unit must maintain documentation of the recipient’s consent in the case record.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 252B.4, 252B.5, and 252B.6.

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