

441—98.24 (252D) Amount of withholding. The child support recovery unit shall determine the amount to be withheld by the employer or other income providers as follows:

98.24(1) *Current support obligation exists.* When a current support obligation exists, the amount withheld shall be an amount equal to the current support obligation, and an additional amount equal to 50 percent of the current support obligation to be applied toward the liquidation of any delinquency.

Effective July 1, 1998, the amount withheld to be applied toward the liquidation of any delinquency shall be 20 percent of the current support obligation for any support order entered or modified on or after July 1, 1998, or for any support order entered or modified prior to July 1, 1998, for which no income withholding order has been filed by an Iowa CSRU prior to July 1, 1998.

a. The obligor may request a modification of the amount withheld as payment toward the arrearage or reimbursement on the grounds of hardship. The procedure for this request is described in rule 98.43(252D). Hardship exists if the obligor's income is 200 percent or less than poverty level for one person as defined by the United States Office of Management and Budget and revised annually in accordance with Section 673(2) of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981.

b. If hardship is claimed by the obligor, the child support recovery unit may verify income from:

- (1) The employer or other income provider of the obligor.
- (2) The obligor.
- (3) The state employment security agency.
- (4) Other records available in accordance with Iowa Code section 252B.9.

c. If the hardship criteria are met, the amount withheld as payment toward the arrears may be modified as follows:

(1) The obligor's gross yearly income shall be divided by 200 percent of the established yearly gross poverty level income for one person. That amount shall be multiplied by .5. The resulting figure will be the percent of the current support order which shall be withheld for payment on the arrearage.

(2) The amount withheld on the arrearage shall not be less than \$5 per month.

(3) If criteria for withholding 20 percent toward liquidation of any delinquency are also met, the lesser of 20 percent or hardship is to be withheld.

98.24(2) *Current obligation ended.* When the current support obligation has ended or has been suspended, the income withholding order shall remain in effect until any delinquency has been satisfied. The amount withheld shall be equal to the amount of the most recent prior current support obligation which is greater than zero. Hardship criteria shall be applied in accordance with subrule 98.24(1). However, in the following circumstances, the amount withheld shall be 20 percent of the amount owed for current support at the time the obligation ended or was suspended; and, if hardship criteria are met, this amount shall be one-half of the amount established under the guidelines in subrule 98.24(1):

a. There has been a change of legal custody from the obligee to the obligor.

b. The obligee and obligor have reconciled and have obtained a modification ending the current support obligation.

c. The current obligation is suspended through the suspension process.

d. In a foster care case, the order for parental liability ended when the child left placement, or an order ending the liability has been entered and the child in foster care has returned to the home of a parent ordered to pay parental liability. In this situation, the amount withheld shall be reduced to 20 percent of the current support amount when the obligation ended, but only for the parent with whom the child resides.

98.24(3) *No support ordered.* When there is no current child support ordered and the obligation is solely the result of a judgment which does not specify a repayment schedule, the unit shall establish the amount to be withheld per month as follows:

a. Initially the amount shall be set at the amount for one person from the ADC schedule of basic needs. Hardship may be asserted as set out in subrule 98.24(1).

b. If hardship criteria are met in these circumstances, the amount withheld on reimbursement shall be determined by dividing the obligor's gross yearly income by 200 percent of the poverty level income for one person. The resulting number is the percent of the existing withholding amount that will now be withheld. This amount will be reduced by one-half if the obligor has legal custody of the child.

98.24(4) *Lump-sum income source.* Notwithstanding subrules 98.24(1), 98.24(2), and 98.24(3), when the obligor is paid by a lump-sum income source, the withholding amount may include all current and delinquent support due through the current month. Lump-sum income includes income received in a sole payment or in payments that occur at two-month or greater intervals.

98.24(5) *Disability continues.* If hardship criteria under paragraph 98.43(2) "e" are met and the amount withheld as payment toward the arrears is modified, the obligor is deemed to continue to meet the hardship criteria for the duration of the social security disability benefits or supplemental security income disability benefits. If those benefits have not ended, but the amount to withhold would otherwise be amended under this rule and under rule 441—98.45(252D), the unit shall determine the amount to withhold for payment toward arrears under this rule by using the same percent as was used when the hardship amount was first determined under paragraph 98.43(2) "e," but the amount shall not be less than \$5 per month.