

News Release

Clarence H. Carter, Director

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DES encourages fathers to become “Active and Involved” in their children’s lives this Father’s Day

PHOENIX – The Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) recognizes the importance of a father’s role in a child’s life. Therefore, to honor them on this Father’s Day, the Division of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE) is promoting a special “Active and Involved” campaign to offer extra incentives for non-custodial parents who make payments or establish paternity.

“In the Child Support Enforcement Division at DES, we see many single parents struggling to provide the day-to-day necessities for their children because they may not be receiving the support needed from the other parent,” said Director Clarence Carter. “Research shows that fathers who pay child support are more likely to be involved in other aspects of their child’s life, like school and extra-curricular activities. Our desire is that all children know they are loved and supported by both parents.”

Monday, June 11 through Friday, June 15, DCSE will offer fee reductions to non-custodial parents who make a payment or establish paternity. DCSE will also offer an amnesty period to those who have a court-ordered financial obligation to a child.

Prospective or current child support parties may do the following:

- **Establish Paternity:** The first 100 fathers who contact a local Child Support Office during this time period may have the fee waived for their paternity tests. The genetic testing fee, which runs approximately \$100 per case, will be waived for the first 100 fathers during this period. Call (602) 771-8000 or visit www.azdes.gov/dcse for available dates and locations.
- **Make a Payment:** If you make an extra \$100 payment towards a local child support case, you may qualify for up to \$100 in waivers of child support clearinghouse fees. Make the payment at a local office, by phone (866) 562-0140, or via web at <https://www.velocitypayment.com/vbills/bankofamerica/azdes/login.gov>.
- **Consult with a Caseworker:** Visit a local office to discuss your situation with a caseworker without fear of arrest, regardless of case status.

For more information on fee reductions, establishing paternity or to speak with a caseworker, please contact the child support program at **(602) 252-4045** or **(800) 882-4151** (toll free), or visit the child support website at <https://www.azdes.gov/main.aspx?menu=24&ID=2652>.