



Interstate Data Exchange Consortium

The Finder

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Dear Colleague,

I am pleased to have this opportunity to comment on New Mexico's participation in the Interstate Data Exchange Consortium (IDEC). New Mexico CSED joined the consortium in 2000 for some good reasons that have remained good reasons to continue participation.

First and foremost, IDEC provides access to data matching with financial institutions that we cannot get through the OCSE multi-state financial institution match. For New Mexico this means access to seventy-three in-state credit unions and local banks where non-custodial parents may have accounts, as well as to those non-multi-state financial institutions in other IDEC states. Overall, the consortium matches with 3,814 such institutions that OCSE does not access. While these financial institutions are generally smaller and less numerous than the multi-state financial institutions, they are a source of significant collections for states' FIDM programs. In New Mexico, nearly one-fourth of FIDM collections result from IDEC matches. Consortium-wide, for the last four quarters, the match rate for NCPs referred versus matches on accounts received is 36%.

From a purely business perspective, IDEC makes dollars and cents. Even in these economically challenging times, the yield of collections received from IDEC matches versus contract expenditures (before Federal matching) for New Mexico is 4.3 to 1.

Additionally, I would like to offer a few words on the IDEC as an organization. South Carolina, as the seat agency, manages the contract and the contractor for a nominal fee from the participating states. This means other member states do not have to invest stretched resources in procurement and contract management. Negotiations and pricing for all member states are accomplished through South Carolina's RFP and contract. Member states, then, have GSA agreements with South Carolina, and they pay on invoices from South Carolina, not the contractor. This may make legally procuring the services through the consortium easier for some states. At the same time, all member states are given a voice in the contract procurement and management via periodic Board meetings in which policy for the group is decided by parliamentary procedure.



Also, the consortium is a vehicle for interstate coordination and cooperation on such issues as Automated Enforcement of Interstate (AEI) cases, for which IDEC provides automated support, and levying other state banks. Staff of IDEC states assists each other in resolving FIDM issues, such as recalcitrant financial institutions or customer complaints on interstate FIDM actions. IDEC also offers an enhanced locate option.

In conclusion, I would like to encourage other states to join IDEC. Per the pricing schedule, as each new state joins, the cost for all is reduced as the contractor's fixed costs are divided among all members. It is an organization that helps IV-D programs become more cost-effective and more successful at collecting past-due child support for families.

Sincerely,

Charissa Saavedra, Division Director
New Mexico Child Support Enforcement

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

IDEC is stated-owned and operated. States may join as either Full Members or as Limited Partners through a state contract containing a memorandum of understanding agreement administered by the South Carolina Department of Social Services (SCDSS) which serves as the "Seat Agency." [Read more.](#)

IDEConsortium Full Member States:
Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia,
Kentucky, Louisiana, New Mexico,
North Carolina, Oklahoma,
Pennsylvania, South Carolina,
South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia,
West Virginia



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