

7.5.1 Noncustodial Parents (CMN)

7.5.1.1 Noncustodial Parent Eligibility for W-2 Services

7.5.1.2 W-2 Case Management Services for Noncustodial Parents

7.5.1.3 Children First

The Noncustodial Parents (CMN) placement is for individuals who are noncustodial parents (NCPs). One of the goals of W-2 is to enable *custodial parents* to achieve economic stability by ensuring regular child support payments in combination with employment. For this reason, W-2 agencies should provide case management and employment services to NCPs. When appropriate, W-2 agencies should explain available NCP services to the custodial parent.

7.5.1.1 NCP Eligibility for W-2 Services

An NCP may be eligible for W-2 services when all of the following apply:

1. The custodial parent is:
 - a. Participating in a CSJ, W-2 T, or CMJ placement;
 - b. Receiving a payment for placement in an ARP or CMC placement; or
 - c. Receiving Wisconsin Shares Child Care Assistance;
2. The noncustodial parent is subject to a child support order; and
3. The noncustodial parent meets all other financial and nonfinancial eligibility criteria except that the individual is a noncustodial parent. (See Chapters 2 and 3)

Example 1: Norman is the noncustodial parent to Thomas, his 9 year-old son. Thomas lives with his mother, Mary. Mary is in a CSJ. Norman has a Child Support order that requires him to pay the court ordered support for Thomas every other month. Although Norman typically is a few months late in making his Child Support payments, he is cooperating with the Child Support Agency and he also meets all other W-2 financial and non-financial requirements, except that he is not a custodial parent. Norman would be eligible for W-2 services for noncustodial parents.

7.5.1.2 W-2 Case Management Services for Noncustodial Parents

The W-2 agency may provide the following case management services to individuals in a noncustodial parent placement (CMN):

- Employment Search (ES);
- Job Retention Services (JR);
- Career Advancement Services (CR);
- Education and Training activities, including;
 - JS - Job Skills Training;

- GE - GED;
 - HE - HSE;
 - Life Skills;
- PA – Parenting;
- Other Case Management activities (See Appendix – Activity Codes for a full list).

7.5.1.3 Children First

Children First provides employment and training services for eligible NCPs. It also provides services and support to help NCPs increase their involvement in the lives of their child(ren).

The NCP may be court-ordered to participate in the Children First Program if he/she is unable to meet his/her child support obligation. Eligibility for Children First is not tied to W-2 eligibility. A noncustodial parent who meets all of the eligibility criteria in 7.5.1.1 above may receive both Children First and W-2 services at the same time.

An NCP successfully completes the Children First Program when he/she makes timely child support payments for three consecutive months or participates in the Children First Program for 16 weeks. Children First may be administered by the county child support agency, county human/social services agency, tribal governing body or W-2 agency.