

Formula for determining USDA Cash Medical Support Schedule

The formula outlined in the United States Department of Agriculture. *Expenditures on Children by Families* (U.S. Department of Agriculture, Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion. Miscellaneous Publication No. 1528-2006) for the *Estimated Annual Health Care Expenditures on a Child by Husband-Wife Families, Urban Midwest* table is used to determine the amounts listed in the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Cash Medical Support Schedule.

The *Expenditures on Children by Families* is published every April by the USDA, and provides data for the preceding year. The ODJFS Office of Child Support shall update the ODJFS USDA Cash Medical Support Schedule every year, using data from the April report. The annual schedule is effective July 1 through June 31.

In order to maintain compliance with 42 U.S.C. 1396(k), a figure or figures may be adjusted downward on the schedule to ensure that any assigned cash medical support obligation that may be retained by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services does not exceed the amount of the State's medical assistance expenditure.

The ODJFS USDA Cash Medical Support Schedule shall be used by all courts and child support enforcement agencies when calculating the amount of cash medical support to be paid pursuant to a child support order in accordance with section 3119.30 of the Revised Code, **unless the annual gross income of the obligor is below one hundred fifty percent of the federal poverty level for an individual.**

The formula is as follows:

For each income range:

Step #1: Determine the total sum of the Estimated Health Care Expenditure by adding the amounts for each age range.

Step #2: Determine the average amount of the Estimated Health Care Expenditure by dividing the total sum by six.

Step #3: Determine the cash medical support amount per child as follows:

For one child:	Multiply the average amount by 1.24
For two children:	Multiply the average amount by 2
For three children:	Multiply the average amount by .77; then multiply that amount by three
For four children:	Multiply the average amount by .77; then multiply that amount by four
For five children:	Multiply the average amount by .77; then multiply that amount by five
For six or more children:	Multiply the average amount by .77; then multiply that amount by six

All amounts shall be dollars only and no cents. Round down when the amount ends in a decimal point of .1 to .4; round up when the amount ends in a decimal point of .5 to .9.

From the *United States Department of Agriculture: Estimated Annual Health Care Expenditures on a Child by Husband-Wife Families, Urban Midwest, 2006:*

"Estimates are based on 1990-92 Consumer Expenditure Survey data updated to 2006 dollars using the regional Consumer Price Index. For each age category, the expense estimates represent average child-rearing expenditures for each age (e.g., the expense for the 3-5 age category, on average, applies to the 3-year-old, the 4-year-old, or the 5-year-old). The figures represent estimated expenses on the younger child in a two-child family. Estimates are about the same for the older child, so to calculate expenses for two children, figures should be summed for the appropriate age categories. To estimate expenses for an only child, multiply the total expense for the appropriate age category by 1.24. To estimate expenses for each child in a family with three or more children, multiply the total expense for each appropriate age category by 0.77. For expenses on all children in a family, these totals should be summed."

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Example:

For the combined adjusted gross income range of \$44,000 to \$74,000: the Estimated Health Care Expenditures from the 2006 report are as follows:

Age	Estimated Health Care Expenditures
0-2	\$720
3-5	\$690
6-8	\$780
9-11	\$840
12-14	\$860
15-17	\$900

Step #1: The total sum = 720 + 690 + 780 + 840 + 860 + 900 = \$4790

Step #2: The average amount = 4790/6 = \$798

Step #3: The cash medical support amount per child =

For one child = 798 x 1.24 = 989.52, rounded up to **\$990**

For two children = 798 x 2 = **\$1596**

For three children = 798 x .77 = 614.46, rounded down to 614; 614 x 3 = **\$1842**

For four children = 798 x .77 = 614.46, rounded down to 614; 614 x 4 = **\$2456**

For five children = 798 x .77 = 614.46, rounded down to 614; 614 x 5 = **\$3070**

For six or more children = 798 x .77 = 616.46, rounded down to 614; 614 x 6 = **\$3684**

ODJFS USDA Cash Medical Support Schedule, 7/1/07 to 6/31/08

Combined Adjusted Gross Income	Number of Children					
	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six+
Less than \$44,000	742	1196	1380	1840	2300	2760
\$44,000 to \$74,000	990	1596	1842	2456	3070	3684
More than \$74,000	1156	1864	2154	2872	3590	4308