



Interstate Data Exchange Consortium

The Finder

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Dear Colleague,

Pennsylvania is pleased to be a Full Member State of the IDEConsortium (IDEC) since 2004. Pennsylvania selected IDEC as its Financial Institute Data Match (FIDM) vendor through a Request for Proposal process based on the low cost for services and the expanded cross-section of states providing asset information through the consortium. Pennsylvania realized a savings of over 50 percent in processing costs by joining IDEC.

Although IDEC's processing costs are low, the value of services provided is not diminished. Pennsylvania increased the number of matches and gross collections since joining IDEC for both in-state and out-of-state financial institutions. In 2007, Pennsylvania sent 759,213 inquiries to IDEC and received 443,731 in-state FIDM matches and 20,213 out-of-state matches; 61 percent of Pennsylvania's inquiries resulted in a match. In-state collections have increased 23 percent and out-of-state collections have increased 33 percent. As of May 2007, Pennsylvania's cumulative FIDM collections totaled over \$30 million dollars.

Pennsylvania's financial institutions have also benefited from the FIDM service. Pennsylvania has a unique process for FIDM, which includes a two-step process for financial institutions using Match Method One and requires in-state financial institutions to submit asset data on a higher frequency. IDEC's flexibility in addressing Pennsylvania's unique processing requirements and cycles allowed for a smooth transition from the previous vendor for Pennsylvania and moved Pennsylvania into a quarterly system. Feedback from the financial institutions has been positive.

Pennsylvania had a large number of small financial institutions, primarily independent credit unions, which were not automated and reported asset data on paper. Processing the data was labor intensive and time consuming. IDEC has worked with the financial institutions reporting on paper, reducing that number by approximately 32 percent. The financial institutions now report electronically, which increases the efficiency of reporting and lowers costs to financial institutions. Additionally, IDEC's vigilance and excellent working relationship with the financial institutions and third party data processors has resulted in timely notification of new financial institutions, mergers, and name changes, which has facilitated Pennsylvania's administration of the FIDM Program.



Pennsylvania highly recommends IDEC services for other states as the services provided include efficient and cost effective solutions for member states.

Sincerely,

Daniel N. Richard, Director
Bureau of Child Support Enforcement
State of Pennsylvania

FIDM Collections Made Easier with a Little Help from Your Friends

The following is an excerpt from the Child Support Quarterly Summer 2008 Edition by Andrew Szymak, Oklahoma's IDEC Board Member.

In today's child support enforcement environment of tight budgets and resource shortages, it is extremely important for states to participate in programs that can be both cost and resource efficient. In the area of Financial Institution Data Match (FIDM), there are ways to control costs and still create a working and successful collections program. One of the best ways to obtain these results is to partner with other states and create alliances or consortia that share the overall costs of the FIDM matching process.

Within IDEC every participating state has a designated FIDM coordinator and associated staff who are familiar with their state's FIDM laws, policies, and day-to-day operations. These FIDM coordinators participate in conference calls and periodic face-to-face meetings held on a regular basis. This ability to network with FIDM staff members from other member states helps establish strong working relationships that assist in increasing collections for children nationwide.

For more on this Interjurisdictional article please go to:

<http://ncsea2.timberlakepublishing.com/files/31453%20Summer%202008.indd.pdf>

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.](#)

IDEC Consortium 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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