



## Interstate Data Exchange Consortium

# The Finder

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Dear Colleague,

Federal Legislation passed in 1996 requires states to develop and operate, in coordination with financial institutions a data match system. One of the options for implementing various aspects of the data match system was via private vendor through a competitive procurement involving a multistate consortium. In order to meet those requirements the State of West Virginia joined with 14 other member states to become the Interstate Data Exchange Consortium and we have never looked back.

West Virginia uses one of the most powerful features of the IDEConsortium, FIDM, for locating non-custodial parents' financial assets. The IDEConsortium's FIDM solution has proven to be the most efficient, cost-effective, and complete means of performing the required services.

Initiating FIDM services is easy. IDEConsortium Full Member states simply provide a quarterly inquiry file of all non-custodial parents who are in delinquent child support payment status. One of the key steps in the FIDM process includes merging Full Member states' files for matching each quarter to create one master inquiry file which is distributed to in-state financial institutions across all Full Member states. This extra step provides the benefits of an interstate FIDM search, maximizing the chances of a successful match.

Further benefits of the IDEConsortium Full Member FIDM solution include:

- Technical support—Toll free Help Desk support is available for Full Member state personnel, financial institutions and their vendors. A website has been established specifically for Full Member states, financial institutions and vendors opting to transmit the FIDM data via secured file transmission.
- Outreach and training support—Although most Full Member states have implemented FIDM to some extent, many need to continue to expand their outreach to incorporate new or yet to be recruited financial institutions. The IDEConsortium provides nationally recognized expertise, staff training and financial institution workshop implementation.



- Customization—The IDEConsortium allows Full Member states to modify the basic service offering to accommodate their needs. For example, states may send and receive one file a quarter or exercise various schedule options for more frequent reporting of matched files.
- Quality control—Full Member states are assured that the IDEConsortium monitors and reports financial institution data quality. The vendor works closely with institutions and providers to assure that all the data required is reported accurately and completely. Full Members may choose to track the compliance of new and existing financial institutions in their state.
- Detailed reporting—The IDEConsortium generates standard quarterly reports with the number of records processed, matches found, and files mailed. Depending on the types of service additions, Full Member states may also obtain a variety of reports to assist in their administration of their program.

Small may be desirable, but, as the members of Interstate Data Exchange Consortium are discovering, large can also have its attractions in the current economic climate. Since 2002, IDEConsortium's work has resulted in over 1 million interstate matches with over 4,000 actively participating financial institutions.

Sincerely,

Susan Shelton Perry, Commissioner  
West Virginia Bureau for 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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