

## **Treasury Offset Program**

**Alyssa W. Riedl, Director Debt Program Division** 



## What is the Treasury Offset Program?

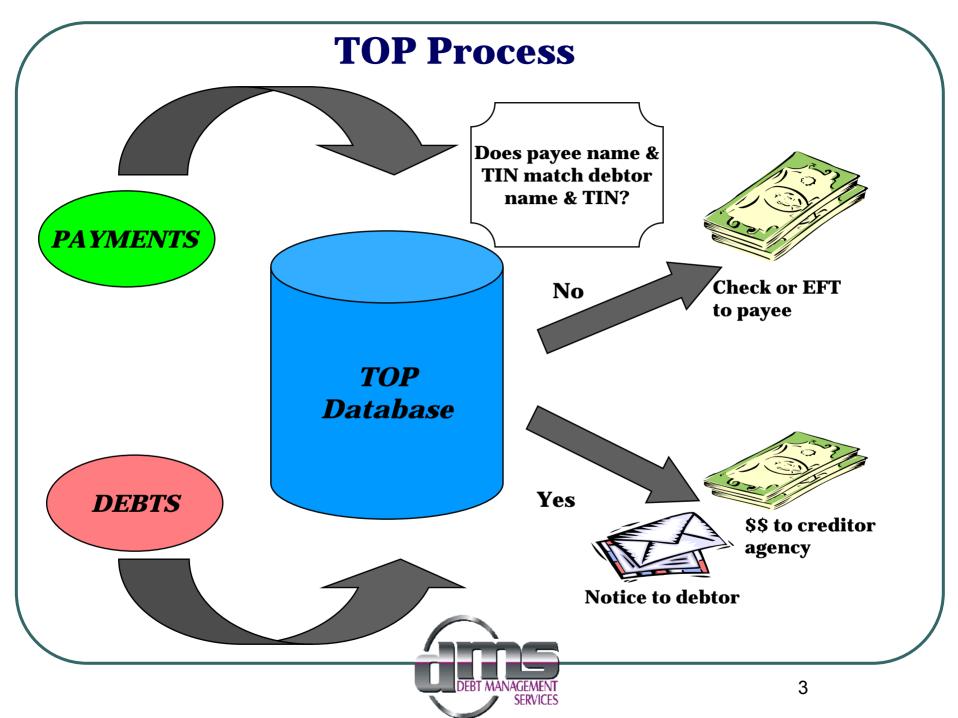
TOP is a centralized offset process that intercepts Federal payments of payees who owe delinquent debts to agencies that have submitted debt information to FMS.

Offset is withholding funds payable by the United States to a person to satisfy a debt owed to the United States or to a state.



<u>Centralized offset</u> is the offset of payments disbursed by FMS and other Federal disbursing agencies through the TOP.





## **Priority of Debts in TOP**

- IRS Income Tax Debts
- Child Support Debts
- Federal Non-tax Debts
- State Income Tax Debts





# As of September 30, 2008 TOP Database Contains:

- \$49.2 billion in Federal Non-Tax Debts.
- \$100.1 billion in Child Support Debts.
- \$171.6 billion in Federal Tax Debts.
- \$10.3 billion in State Income Tax Debts.
- Total \$331.2 billion!







## **TOP – Payments**

- Federal tax refunds (including Stimulus)
- Federal retirement
- Federal benefits
- Federal salary
- Vendor payments to government contractors
- Medicare payments
- Federal employee travel advances & travel reimbursements



## **Payment Exemptions**

- Payments exempted by law, e.g. student loan payments, veterans' benefits
- Payments exempt by Treasury
- Means-tested payments
- Non means-tested payments if offset would tend to interfere with or defeat the purpose of the program



## **Payment Exemptions**

 Standards for Exemption of Federal Payments into the Treasury Offset Program

List of Payments Exempted From Centralized Offset

http://fms.treas.gov/debt/top.html



## **Centralized Salary Offset**

# Participating Salary Paying Agencies:

- **✓** Interior
- **✓ National Finance Center**
- **✓ DoD-DFAS**
- **✓ U.S. Postal Service**
- ✓ GSA





#### **NTDO Vendor Offset**

- Implemented with the following:
  - DoD
  - State of Maryland
  - State of New Jersey
  - Army Corps of Engineers
  - CMS
- Not a real time process
- Potential to over collect the debt
- USPS will participate in FY 2009





## **Additional Payment Methods**

Corporate Trade Exchange (CTX)

#### **Fedwire**



• For Fedwire payments that match debts in TOP, the agency will be required to use payment methods that go through the Treasury Offset Program, allowing offset/levy.



#### **FY 2008 Collections**

Administrative Offsets

**\$244.9** million

 Tax Refund Offset **Child Support** 

**\$1.99** billion

 Tax Refund Offset Federal Non-Tax Debt \$1.37 billion



Tax Levy

\$400 million



#### **FY 2008 Collections**

#### **Stimulus**

Child Support
 \$840 million

Federal Non-Tax Debt \$574 million

State Income Tax Debt
 \$ 88 million



## **State Reciprocal Program**

- States refer debts to TOP for offset against Federal vendor payments and State payments will be matched against Federal debts.
- Pilot began in June 2007 with Maryland.
  New Jersey started in July.





## **Purchase Card**



Match CCR data against delinquent debts in TOP

Provide results to CCR

Establish indicator on CCR database to identify vendors that are ineligible for purchase card payments

Agencies required to use payment methods that go through the Treasury Offset Program allowing offset/levy

Changes to the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) were published.



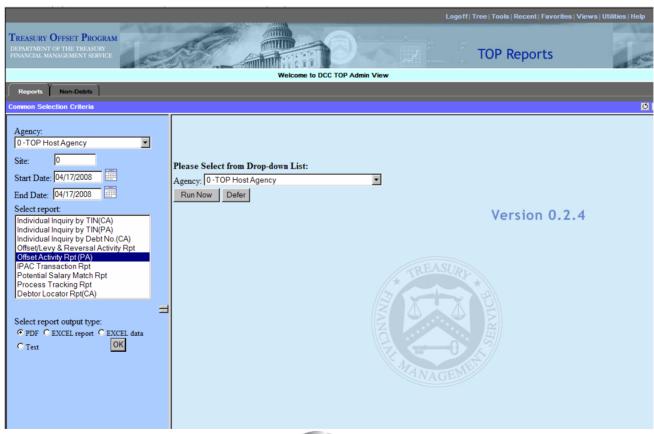
### **New TOP Web Client**

- Web-based Client is a rewrite of existing TOP Client
- Similar look and feel to the Cross Servicing Client
- Agencies will access through the internet
- PKI Level 3 Application
- New Standardized User ID
- Two Factor Authentication
  - SecurID Card
  - Password
- Implemented in September 2008





## Reports





## Reports



ofstparp v1.0.0 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICE TREASURY OFFSET PROGRAM Offset Activity Report - Payment Agency View Page 1 of 1 Report Date: 04/17/2008 Report Time: 17.07.16

#### Report Summary Information

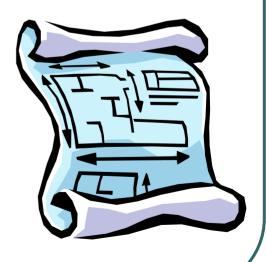
|   | •   |
|---|---|
| Retrieval Arguments   | Totals and Item Counts  |
| Start Date: 04/17/2008<br>End Date: 04/17/2008<br>Agency Id: 1C | Total Offset Amount:<br>Total Payment Amount:<br>Item Offset Count: |

No data meets the selection criteria



## **Legislative Changes**

- Removal of 10 Year Statute of Limitations on Offset of Non-Tax Debts.
- Allow the Offset of Medicare Payments.





## **Debt Management Operations Center**

## Operates the National TOP Call Center 1-800-304-3107 CY2007 – 3 million calls

Callers are referred to creditor agency for-

- Account balances
- Particular debt information
- Removal from TOP
- Adjustments or refunds



## **Debt Program Division**

**Points of Contact** 

Alyssa W. Riedl, Division Director Debt Program Division (202) 874-0540

Rosemary McCambridge, Branch Manager Debt Program Relations Branch (202) 874-6727

Horace Tate, Acting Branch Manager Program Support Branch (202) 874-6859





# **Questions?**







