

from the
STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
in partnership with the
CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S EDUCATION AND LEGAL FUND

Child Support

*Do you know
what you need to know?*





What is child support?

Both parents are responsible to support their children with money to pay for food, clothing and other costs of raising a family. Adoptive parents have similar responsibilities. If either parent does not voluntarily support their child, a court can order them to pay. This is called child support. The Department of Social Services can help a parent in getting a child support order and in collecting payments.

Who can seek child support?

The parent who has custody of a child can ask the court to order the non-custodial parent(s) to pay child support. Also, an adult relative caring for a child can seek child support.



How do I get child support?

If you are not receiving state cash assistance, you may work out a voluntary agreement with the non-custodial parent.

You need a court order for child support if you do not have a voluntary agreement. The court grants most support orders as part of a divorce, legal separation, paternity or support action. Copies of orders are available from the clerk's office of the court where you received the order.

If you do not have a child support order, contact the local Department of Social Services Child Support Office where you live or call 1-800-228-KIDS.

Where can I get help with a child support problem?

You can get help by calling the Department of Social Services office closest to where you live. To find the nearest office, check the Blue Pages in your telephone book under the State of Connecticut, Department of Social Services. You may also call 1-800-228-KIDS.

How long will my child support order last?

The order will state the period it covers. There are also some time limits in the law. In Connecticut, orders are usually in effect until the child is age 18.



How does the state assist me in getting regular child support payments?

Payments are usually taken directly out of the parent's paycheck. Also, the state can collect payments from income tax returns, liens on property and other enforcement methods.

How can I help with my own case?

Make sure you have provided all necessary information requested by Department of Social Services. Let them know when you get new information about the non-custodial parent such as a change in job or address.

For more information –

Call the Department of Social Services at 1-800-228-KIDS or the Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund (CWEALF) at (860) 247-6090.



The Department of Social Services' programs are available to all applicants and recipients without regard to race, color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, age, disabilities, learning disabilities, national origin, ancestry or language barriers.

The Department has a TDD/TTY line for persons who are deaf or hearing impaired and have a TDD/TTY: 1-800-842-4524. Auxiliary aids are also available for blind or visually impaired persons.

The Department of Social Services is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer.

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