

Terms & Definitions

A GUIDE TO ADDRESSING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



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Where can I get more information?

If you need additional information about your case or services available, contact your CSEA support specialist.

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 80598
Akron, Ohio 44308-0598

Street Address

175 S. Main Street,
Akron, Ohio 44308

Hours of Operation

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
(Monday – Friday)

Telephone

(330) 643-2765
Toll Free (800) 726-2765

Fax

(330) 643-2745

Website

<http://www.co.summit.oh.us/prosecutor/childsupp.htm>

To obtain a listing of Ohio County Child Support Agencies and phone numbers, please visit:
<http://www.jfs.ohio.gov/county/cntydir.stm>

To view a listing of all States Child Support Agencies and phone numbers, please visit:
<http://ocse.acf.hhs.gov/int/directories/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.extivdlist>

Common Child Support Terms and Definitions

ADMINISTRATIVE FEE - Service fee assessed to cover the cost of posting and disbursing payments. Formerly known as POUNDAGE.

ARREARS - Past due, unpaid child support owed by the Obligor.

CALCULATION - To compute the actual balance of your Support Order. This is done by determining what should have been paid per all child Support Orders, and then comparing that with what actually was paid by the Obligor according to the records of the CSEA.

CARETAKER - A person other than the biological parents who has assumed legal custody of the child(ren) through the court system.

CHILD SUPPORT SPECIALIST - Case managers in every area of child support.

CURRENT CHILD SUPPORT - The amount of money, ordered by the court or administrative process, owed by the Obligor for the support of the child(ren). This is a monthly obligation.

CSEA / Child Support Enforcement Agency - The county office of child support services.

CSPC – Child Support Payment Central – Ohio’s centralized collection and disbursement system.

CUSTODIAL PARENT - Any person to whom child support is owed. Also known as the PAYEE or OBLIGEE.

CUSTODY ORDER - A court issued legally binding document that establishes with whom the child(ren) shall reside.

DEFAULT - When a child support obligation has fallen behind in the payment schedule equal to one month’s current support obligation.

ELECTRONIC DISBURSEMENT - It is an electronic funds transfer by means of direct deposit to a bank, savings and loan, or credit union account, or transfer to a magnetic strip card, such as a stored-value card.

EMANCIPATION - Termination of the current Support Order, usually due to the child reaching age of majority (18 years old) and graduating from high school, or 19 years old, whichever is later.

ExpertPay - Enables employers and obligors to electronically submit child support payments through a bank account debit via the website www.expertpay.com.

FIDM – Financial Institution Data Match – a tool of enforcement that cross-references financial account information.

Child Support Terms and Definitions – cont'd.

IV-D – Pronounced “4D” – a section of Federal law that authorizes enforcement remedies to collect support and provides federal funding for the local agency.

JOURNAL ENTRY - A legal document specifying any support obligations, including medical coverage. Also known as an ORDER/SUPPORT ORDER.

NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT - Any person ordered to pay child support. Also known as the OBLIGOR or PAYOR.

OBLIGEE - Any person to whom child support is owed. Also known as the PAYEE or CUSTODIAL PARENT.

OBLIGOR - Any person ordered to pay child support. Also known as the PAYOR or NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT.

MEDICAL OBLIGOR - Any person ordered to carry medical insurance for the child(ren). This may be either party.

NOTICE OF INCOME WITHHOLDING (NOIW) (IW) - A wage withholding sent by the CSEA to an income source of an Obligor.

OCDA / Ohio CSEA Directors' Association - A professional association dedicated to strengthening Ohio's child support program.

OCS / Office of Child Support - The State Office of Child Support, a division of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

OCSE / Office of Child Support Enforcement - The Federal office of Child Support.

ORDER/SUPPORT ORDER - A legal document specifying any support obligations, including medical coverage. Also known as a JOURNAL ENTRY.

PATERNITY - Legal determination of fatherhood. May be done through genetic testing, voluntary acknowledgement, or through the courts. Paternity must be established before child or medical support can be ordered.

PAYEE - Any person to whom child support is owed. Also known as the OBLIGEE or CUSTODIAL PARENT

PAYOR – Any person ordered to pay child support. Also known as the NON-CUSTODIAL PARENT or OBLIGOR.

POUNDAGE - Service fee assessed to cover the cost of posting and disbursing payments. Currently known as ADMINISTRATIVE FEE.

SETS / Support Enforcement Tracking System – Ohio's statewide computer system. Every case is assigned a case number in the State of Ohio SETS system that begins with a “70”.

TOTAL SUPPORT OBLIGATION - Total of the monthly child support obligations including payment on arrears and processing fees.