

Terms & Definitions

A GUIDE TO ADDRESSING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Sherri Bevan Walsh
Prosecuting Attorney
Summit County, Ohio

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

Mailing / Street Address

175 S. Main Street
Akron, Ohio 44308

Walk In / Hearing / Appt.

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

Genetic Testing Walk In

8:30 am – 3:00 pm
Monday - Thursday

Payment Hours

8:00 a.m. – 3:40 p.m.
(Monday – Friday)

Telephone

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

Fax

(330) 643-2745

Website

<https://co.summitoh.net/prosecutor/index.php/divisions/child-support-enforcement>

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

To view a listing of all States Child Support Agencies and phone numbers, please visit:
<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/css/resource/state-and-tribal-child-support-agency-contacts>

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 system for collecting and disbursing child support payments.

CUSTODIAL PARENT - The person who has legal custody of the child(ren) or to whom child support is owed. Also known as the RESIDENTIAL PARENT, 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 or greater than one month's current support obligation.

DEFENDANT - A person who has a court action filed against him or her.

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 - The removal of a child from a child support case. Typically, this occurs when a child is 18 years old and has completed high school or is no longer attending an accredited high school on a full-time basis.

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 -The process by which money is removed from a bank account to pay an arrears balance.

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 - Person required to pay the child support obligation. 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 DIRECTOR'S 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 - The statewide computer system that maintains records of all child support cases in the State of Ohio.

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

