

Child Support Obligations and Referrals to the Division of Child Support (DCS)

- ◆ Oregon law (ORS 419C.590, 419C.595 and 419C.597) allows the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) to be the recipient of any financial support available to a child placed in its custody.
- ◆ The OYA has an agreement with the Division of Child Support to collect this support.
- ◆ The Division of Child Support State Recovery Central Unit establishes support orders for the OYA.
- ◆ Parents can, at their own expense, speak with an attorney regarding child support obligations.
- ◆ Money collected for child support is used to reimburse the State for a portion of the costs associated with your child's out-of-home placement.
- ◆ The Division of Child Support cannot give legal advice to parents but can answer general questions.
- ◆ Parents may visit the Division of Child Support website at <http://dcs.state.or.us> for information about child support.

Whom Should I Contact?

Contact the Division of Child Support **State Recovery Central Unit** for questions about establishing new orders and wage withholding. Also, contact SRCU for questions about existing orders that were established when a child was in the custody of the OYA or Child Welfare.

Contact your **local Division of Child Support office** for questions about existing orders and wage withholding where a parent or guardian was the payee when the order was established.

Division of Child Support (DCS) Local Branches

Albany

118 Second Avenue SE
Suite B
Albany, OR 97321
541-967-2028

Bend

1300 NW Wall Street
Suite 100
Bend, OR 97701
541-388-6141

Corvallis

806 NW Buchanan Ave.
Bldg. A
Corvallis, OR 97330
541-757-4222

Eugene

2885 Chad Drive
Eugene, OR 97408
541-686-7834

Medford

39 North Central Avenue
Medford, OR 97501
541-776-6043

Milwaukie

4252 International Way
Suite B
Milwaukie, OR 97222
503-872-6825

Oregon City

315 Beavercreek Road
Oregon City, OR 97045
503-657-2111

Pendleton

700 SE Emigrant
Suite 100
Pendleton, OR 97801
541-276-6932

East Portland

10142 SE Washington St.
Portland, OR 97216
503-257-4300

Portland

1515 SW Fifth Avenue
Suite 415
Portland, OR 97201
503-229-5825

Roseburg

612 SE Jackson #2
Roseburg, OR 97470
541-440-3357

East Salem

3200 Lancaster Drive NE
Salem, OR 97305
503-378-3636

West Salem

1495 Edgewater NW
Suite 120
Salem, OR 97304
503-378-4489

Springfield

101 30th Street
Springfield, OR 97478
541-726-3525

Tigard

10777 SW Cascade Blvd.
Tigard, OR 97281
503-670-9775

White City

P.O. Box 2750
White City, OR 97503
541-864-8700

New orders for youth committed to OYA are established by:

State Recovery Central Unit (SRCU)

1495 Edgewater NW Suite 120
Salem, OR 97304
503-986-2400 or 503-373-7300
DCS accepts collect calls.

DCS Website – <http://dcs.state.or.us>

Child Support for Youth Committed to the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA)

Frequently Asked



This brochure provides basic information about the State's child support program and how it may affect you and your child if your child is placed in the custody of the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA).



Why does the Division of Child Support get involved in my case?

The Department of Justice, Division of Child Support (DCS) is the agency designated by Oregon law to establish paternity, enact obligations for support and medical coverage, and to collect child support payments. Under Oregon law, both parents have the responsibility for providing support for their child(ren). The OYA must refer your family to DCS when your child is placed with the OYA.

By Oregon law, if an order for child support already exists (e.g., divorce decree, paternity award, etc.), the OYA will be the "payee" while your child is placed with OYA. This is called an "assignment of support rights". ORS 419C.597 also allows the state to collect past-due child support owed under the existing order. If you continue to receive child support after your child is placed with the OYA, you need to contact DCS.

If no child support order exists, DCS will establish an order to collect child support from each parent, and the OYA will be the payee.



Why do I need to pay child support when my child is in an OYA placement?

State and federal law require the State of Oregon to collect child support from you when your child is placed in state custody. The money is used to reimburse the state for part of the cost of providing for your child's placement.



How will the dollar amount of support be established?

The amount of support you are ordered to pay depends on your individual income. DCS has established guidelines to calculate child support amounts. DCS calculates the support order amount using information about a parent's income and the child support guidelines. If you have questions, please contact the State Recovery Central Unit.



How does DCS establish a support order?

Parents are served with a "Notice and Finding of Financial Responsibility." The notice shows the proposed amount of support to be paid on a monthly basis, and the amount of past support owed based on the date of the child's placement with OYA. **Parents may request a hearing through State Recovery Central Unit if they do not agree with the proposed order.**



What is the hearings process?

Support order hearings are called "administrative" hearings. They are conducted by a hearings officer via telephone. An Administrative Support Order has the same legal standing as a court order. Parents have 60 calendar days to appeal a decision by a hearings officer to the circuit court.



How do I make support payments?

Oregon law requires all child support orders to be paid through automatic wage withholding (payroll deduction). There are some exceptions, however, which are explained in the "Notice and Finding of Financial Responsibility."



What if my child is under the age of 18, but was convicted in adult court and placed in a youth correctional facility?

Even if your child is sentenced in an adult court, the state will collect child support from you while your child is in an OYA facility. Sentencing in an adult court does not emancipate a youth, nor does it relieve the parents of their financial obligation to the youth.



When does my child support obligation stop?

Under Oregon law, youth in the custody of OYA may be eligible to receive support up to the age of 21, if they qualify as a "child attending school" (ORS 107.108, effective October 6, 2001). DCS will continue to collect the monthly child support amount if the youth meets the criteria. All youth committed to the Oregon Youth Authority are enrolled in some type of mandatory education program.