Office of Child Support Enforcement

Maryland

Administration for Children & Families U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Changing a Child Support Order in Your State

The information below applies only to Maryland

1. How can I find out if I have a "IV-D" child support case in this state?

Parents should call the Maryland Customer Care Call Center at 1-800-332-6347.

2. How can I contact my child support agency?

Parents may call the Maryland Customer Care Call Center at 1-800-332-6347.

Parent can visit the Maryland Child Support website to obtain the mailing address of a local office, http://www.dhr.state.md.us/blog/?page_id=805.

The main office is:

DHR Main Office 311 West Saratoga Street Baltimore, MD 21201

410-767-7065

3. If I am incarcerated, are there any barriers to having my order changed?

No. (As long as the offense is other than criminal non-support, there are no laws or statutes that prevent the incarcerated parent from requesting a modification to their child support order.)

4. Do you provide any materials online that I can use to ask for a change to my child support order?

Yes, forms to request a modification can be accessed online at http://www.dhr.state.md.us/blog/?page_id=2547. The links to access these forms are under the heading "Motion for Modification". There are specific forms for incarcerated parents of Baltimore County or Baltimore City, attached. There is also a link for the general public to access the modification request form.

General information about modification may be accessed online at http://www.dhr.state.md.us/blog/?page_id=2687. [Under "Parents", click on "Frequently Asked Questions" and the "Maryland Child Support Questions and Answers" brochure will come up. Next scroll down to Page 12 and information regarding how to request a modification is under the question "How do I request an increase/decrease in my child support?" That information is described here under the response to Question #6.]

5. Do you have any printed materials I could read to learn more about child support for parents who are incarcerated?

No.

6. When can I ask to have my order changed?

A parent may request a review for modification every three years, or if there has been a significant change in circumstances. A substantial and continuing material change in circumstances must have occurred after the last child support order was entered for a change to be made in the support order. Continuing change in circumstances means a material change that occurred at least six months prior and is expected to continue indefinitely into the future. Examples of changes that may be grounds for requesting modification are: significant changes in income, incarceration, changes in work related day care cost, changes in health care costs, changes in transportation costs for visitation, a change in custody, or a change in the financial needs of the child.

Maryland

Administration for Children & Families U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Changing a Child Support Order in Your State

7. How do I request the change?

The Maryland Child Support Enforcement Administration must provide notice every three years to parties subject to orders enforced by a Maryland CSE agency advising them of the right to request a review and the manner in which the request may be made. One of the parties mentioned in the order must request a review of the current court order.

8. What is the process after I've asked to have my order changed, and how long does it take?

After one of the parties requests a review of the current court order, the child support worker reviews the request. The child support worker must inform the requesting party of the results of the investigation. If CSE determines that the request has no merit, the process stops. If the results of the investigation prove a 25% change in circumstance, the child support worker proceeds with the modification. The child support worker may schedule a pre-trial conference in order to obtain a consent order. If the parties do not consent, the case is scheduled for a judicial review and modification.

The CSE agency shall provide notice that a review will be conducted, conduct the review, provide notice of the results of the review, and adjust the order or determine that the order should not be adjusted within 180 calendar days of receiving a request for a review or locating the non-requesting parent, whichever occurs later.

9. Is this process different if the other parent agrees to the change in advance?

Yes. Yes, if both parents agree, they can sign a consent order which is filed in court and there is no need for a hearing. It usually takes 30-60 days for the court to sign off on the consent order.

10. Does it cost anything to try to have my order changed?

No.

11. If I am incarcerated, do I need to do anything else to have my order changed?

No.

12. If I am incarcerated, does my state have any programs to help me with child support?

Maryland Family Law Article 12 allows for arrears to stop accruing while a parent is incarcerated **if** the child support order was established or modified on or after October 1, 2012 **and** the parent was sentenced to serve a term of 18 months or more on or after this date. Parents with questions about this provision should contact their local child support office.

13. Can I get help with child support questions from other sources?

The Maryland Judiciary website provides pro se court forms to petition the court for modification. These forms are available here: http://www.courts.state.md.us/family/forms/supportonlymodification.pdf.

14. Is there anything else I should know about trying to change my order?

No.

The federal Office of Child Support Enforcement prepared this guide; however, your local child support agency can provide the most current information. This guide does not have any binding legal authority and does not constitute legal advice. You may wish to consult a lawyer before using the forms or information provided.



		Your name and ID#
		Your prison address
	City,	State, and Zip Code
Date:		
Office of Child Support Enforcement		
RE:	VYour Name	
CASE #:OCSE case number	_	
SSN:	_	
To Whom It May Concern:		
I am writing to inform you that I am cur		
I have been incarcerated since	Name of Prison and my mandatory release date	
I am writing to request that my child su incarceration based on my current inco child support obligation be scheduled Motion to Modify Child Support with the	ome which is \$ a month or that a pursuant to Maryland law. I have also fi	review of my
I request a response to this correspond	dence as soon as possible.	
Thank you in advance for your assistar	ce.	
Sincerely,		

		*	IN THE
(Name)		*	
(Street a	address)	*	CIRCUIT COURT
(City, sta	Plaintiff	*	FOR
	v.	*	
		*	
(Your na	ame and ID#)		(county/city)
(Prison a	address)	- *	
		*	CASE NO
	ate and zip code) Defendant	*	*****
~ ~ ~ ~ ~			
	MOTION TO MODI	FY CHILD SU	PPORT OBLIGATION
	Now Comes		, the Defendant, in proper
person	, requesting that this Honorable	Court grant h	nim a modification of child support
retroad	ctive to the date of filing pursuant	t to Maryland	I Annotated Code, Family Law Article §
12-104	4 and for cause, states the follow	ing:	
1.	That the Defendant is the legal	and natural f	father of the minor child(ren),
	(List name and birth date of each child	mentioned in t	he Order.)
2.	That this Honorable Court order	ed the Defer	ndant to pay child support in the amount
	of \$ per month;		
3.	That the Defendant is incarcera	ted at	, located in
	, Maryla	and;	
	(city)		
4.		(length of sente	ence)
	(date of incarceration)	mandatory re	elease date is;
5.	That the reason for the Defenda	ant's incarce	ration is not child support-related;
6.	That the Defendant is indigent a	and cannot p	ay child support;

7. The pursuant to <u>Wills v. Jones</u>, 340 Md. 480, 667 A.2d 331 (1995), as long as the incarceration is not child support-related, the Court may modify the child support payments until the inmate is released from incarceration.

WHEREFORE, the Defendant, having shown sufficient cause, prays that this Honorable Court modify his child support obligation retroactive to the date of filing of this motion until such time as he is released from incarceration, and that he be granted such other and further relief as the nature of his cause may require.

Respectfully Submitted,
Defendant – <u>Pro</u> <u>se</u>
(inmate number)
(name of institution)
(address of institution)

	*	IN THE	
(Name)	*		
(Street address)	*	CIRCUIT COURT	
(City, state, and zip code)		FOR	
Plaintiff	*		
V.	*		
	*		
(Your name and ID#)		(county/city)	
(Prison address)	*		
(Neen address)	*	CASE NO.	
(City, state and zip code)		0A3L NO	
Defendant	*		
*********	******	*****	******
<u>CERTI</u>	FICATE OF I	MAILING	
I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this	da	y of	_,,
I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this _	(day)	(month)	(year)
a copy of the foregoing Motion to Modify	Child Supp	ort Obligation was maile	d to
, the Plaintiff			
(name of Plaintiff)	(address	of Plaintiff)	
	Defe	ndant – <u>Pro se</u>	

	*	IN THE
(Name)	*	
(Street address)	*	CIRCUIT COURT
(City, state, and zip code) Plaintiff	*	FOR
v.	*	
(Your name and ID#)	*	(county/aity)
(Tour name and ID#)	*	(county/city)
(Prison address)	- ^	
	*	CASE NO
(City, state and zip code) Defendant	*	
**********	******	*********
<u>DEFENDANT's</u>	S REQUEST F	OR A HEARING
To the Clerk of the Court:		
I,(Defendant's Name)	, the Defenda	ant, in proper person, having filed the
attached Motion to Modify Child Suppor	t Obligation,	hereby request that a hearing be
scheduled, if necessary, in this Honorak	ole Court on t	he aforementioned Motion.
	Defen	ndant – <u>Pro se</u>

(Name)	*	
(Street address)	*	CIRCUIT COURT
(City, state, and zip code) Plaintiff	*	FOR
V.	*	
 (Your name and ID#)	*	/ocusts/oits)
(Tour Hame and 10#)	*	(county/city)
(Prison address)	-	
	*	CASE NO
(City, state and zip code) Defendant ***********************************	* *	***
	<u>ORDER</u>	
UPON CONSIDERATION of the De	efendant's M	otion to Modify Child Support Obligation,
it is this day of		, by the Circuit Court for
;		
ORDERED: That the Defendant's	s Child Suppo	rt Obligation be modified to reflect the
current income of the Defendant during	his period of	incarceration, and his current obligation
to pay \$ a month be modifie	ed to \$	as of the date of the filing of the
Motion,;		
AND IT IS FURTHER ORDERED th	nat this modif	ication will be in effect until
days after Defendant's release from inc	arceration;	
	 Judge	

(Name)	*	
(Street address)	 *	CIRCUIT COURT
(City, state, and zip code)	"	FOR
Plaintiff	*	
v.	*	
	*	
(Your name and ID#)		(county/city)
(Prison address)	*	
	*	CASE NO
(City, state and zip code) Defendant	*	
	******** NANCIAL STA	**************************************
I,	_, state that:	
The following is a list of my income ar	nd expenses:	
1. Total monthly income (before	taxes)	\$
Child support I am paying for I each month	my <u>other</u> chil	dren \$
Alimony I am paying each more	nth to	
(Name of person)		\$
4. Alimony I am receiving each n	nonth from	\$
(Name of person)		·
Expenses for the child(ren) listed	l above:	
5. Monthly health insurance prem		\$
6. Work related monthly child car		\$
7. Extraordinary monthly medical8. School and transportation expenses		\$ \$
to the best of my knowledge, information		e contents of the foregoing paper are true ef.
Data	<u></u>	naturo
Date	Sigi	nature

(Name)			*		
(Street	address)		*	CIRCUIT COURT	
(City, st	ate, and zi Plaintif		*	FOR	
	v.		*		
			*		
(Your na	ame and II	D#)		(county/city)	
(Prison	address)		*		
			*	CASE NO.	
(City, st	ate and zip		*		
			HER COUR	T COSTS	
(Yo	our name)	, the Defenda	nt, <u>in</u> <u>proper</u>	person states:	
1.	That the	e Defendant is filing the attac	ched Motion	to Modify Child Support (Obligation.
2.	That the	e Defendant is the legal and r	natural fathe	er of the minor child(ren),	
	(List the	e names and birth date of eac	ch child mer	tioned in the Order)	
3.		e Defendant is currently unable he is impoverished due to it			d other court costs
4.	That the	e Defendant is currently incar	rcerated at t		
	ent funds court cost	or excess assets which could s.	l be used for	(Name of Prison) the payment of filing fee	s, sheriff's fees, and
5.	That the	e answers to the following qu	estions are	rue:	
	a)	Do you have any money?	How mu	ch? Where?	
		Savings Account (bank's name,	, account nun	nber, and balance)	
		Checking Account (bank's nam	e, account nu	mber, and balance)	
	b)	Are you employed? WI How much do you make? \$_			
	c)	Are you self-employed?your rate of pay?		at?	What is
	d)	If you are not working, when	did you last	work?	

e)	Do you own an automobile? Make Year Is it paid for? How much do you owe? To whom?
f)	Do you owe any money to others? How much? To whom?
g)	Do you own real estate? Value? Is it mortgaged? Total owed? Monthly Payment?
h)	Do you own any other property or any kind? What?
i)	Does anyone owe you money? If so, state name, address, and amount:
j)	Do you receive money from social security, supplemental security income (SSI), workers' compensation or other disability benefits, public assistance, food stamps, settlements, judgments, trust funds, retirement, annuity, or pension payments? If so, how much and what is the source?
k)	What is your inmate number?
I)	Have you filed any other cases in state or federal court? If yes, then for each cast state who you sued, the case number, and the result of the case.
m)	Do you have a prison job or other assignment? Please list your assignment and wages
n)	Do you have a prison account? What is your account number? How much money is in your prison account? (Attached please find certified copies of my last two (2) inmate account states).
WHEREFORE, th	e Defendant requests:
A.	That the Court waive filing fees, Sheriff's fees, and other court costs;
В.	That he be awarded such and other further relief as the nature of his cause may require.
	plemnly swear and affirm under the penalties of perjury that the contents of otion are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.
Date	Defendant – <u>Pro se</u>
Circuit Court for Case No.	
Plaintiff	v Defendant
This Court grant	ORDER s the foregoing Motion for Waiver of Filing Fees, Sheriff's Fees, and Other Court Costs.
	JUDGE

		Your name and ID#
		Your prison address
	City,	State, and Zip Code
Date:		
Office of Child Support Enforcement		
RE:	VYour Name	
CASE #:OCSE case number	_	
SSN:	_	
To Whom It May Concern:		
I am writing to inform you that I am cur		
I have been incarcerated since	Name of Prison and my mandatory release date	
I am writing to request that my child su incarceration based on my current inco child support obligation be scheduled Motion to Modify Child Support with the	ome which is \$ a month or that a pursuant to Maryland law. I have also fi	review of my
I request a response to this correspond	dence as soon as possible.	
Thank you in advance for your assistar	ce.	
Sincerely,		

		*	IN THE	
(Name)		*		
(Street a	address)	*	CIRCUIT COURT	
(City, sta	ate, and zip code) Plaintiff	*	FOR	
	V.	*		
		*		
(Your na	ame and ID#)		(county/city)	
(Prison a	address)	- *		
		*	CASE NO	
(City, sta	ate and zip code) Defendant	*		
****	*********	******	******	*****
	MOTION TO MODI	FY CHILD SU	IPPORT OBLIGATION	
	Now Comes		, the Defendant, in	proper
persor	n, requesting that this Honorable	Court grant h	nim a modification of child s	upport
retroad	ctive to the date of filing pursuant	t to Maryland	d Annotated Code, Family La	aw Article §
12-10 ₋	4 and for cause, states the follow	ring:		
1.	That the Defendant is the legal	and natural	father of the minor child(rer	1),
	(List name and birth date of each child	mentioned in t	the Order.)	;
2.	That this Honorable Court order	ed the Defer	ndant to pay child support ir	the amount
	of \$ per month;			
3.	That the Defendant is incarcera	ted at		located in
			e of institution)	
	, Maryla	and;		
	(city)			
4.	That the Defendant is serving a	(length of sent	sentence, dating f	rom
			elease date is(date of release	;
5.	That the reason for the Defenda	ant's incarce	·	
6.	That the Defendant is indigent a			
			J 1- 1 7	

7. The pursuant to <u>Wills v. Jones</u>, 340 Md. 480, 667 A.2d 331 (1995), as long as the incarceration is not child support-related, the Court may modify the child support payments until the inmate is released from incarceration.

WHEREFORE, the Defendant, having shown sufficient cause, prays that this Honorable Court modify his child support obligation retroactive to the date of filing of this motion until such time as he is released from incarceration, and that he be granted such other and further relief as the nature of his cause may require.

Respectfully Submitted,
Defendant – <u>Pro</u> <u>se</u>
(inmate number)
(name of institution)
(address of institution)

	*	IN THE	
(Name)	*		
(Street address)	*	CIRCUIT COURT	
(City, state, and zip code)		FOR	
Plaintiff	*		
V.	*		
	*		
(Your name and ID#)		(county/city)	
(Prison address)	. *		
(Neen address)	*	CASE NO.	
(City, state and zip code)		CASE NO.	
Defendant	*		
*********	******	*****	******
<u>CERTI</u>	FICATE OF N	MAILING	
I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this	da	v of	
I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this _	(day)	(month)	(year)
a copy of the foregoing Motion to Modify	Child Supp	ort Obligation was maile	d to
, the Plaintiff			
(name of Plaintiff)	(address	of Plaintiff)	
	Defe	ndant – <u>Pro</u> <u>se</u>	

	*	IN THE
(Name)	*	
(Street address)	- *	CIRCUIT COURT
(City, state, and zip code) Plaintiff	*	FOR
v .	*	
	*	
(Your name and ID#)	_	(county/city)
	*	
(Prison address)		
700	*	CASE NO
(City, state and zip code) Defendant	*	
*******	******	********
DEFENDANT	'S REQUEST I	FOR A HEARING
To the Clerk of the Court:		
I,(Defendant's Name)	_, the Defend	ant, in proper person, having filed the
attached Motion to Modify Child Suppo	ort Obligation,	hereby request that a hearing be
scheduled, if necessary, in this Honora	ble Court on t	the aforementioned Motion.
	Defe	ndant – <u>Pro</u> <u>se</u>

(Name)		*	
(Street address)		*	CIRCUIT COURT
(City, state, and zip code)		*	FOR
v.		*	
(Your name and ID#)		*	(county/city)
(four flame and iD#)		*	(county/city)
(Prison address)			
		*	CASE NO
(City, state and zip code) Defendant ***********************************	*****	* *****	*******
		ORDER	
UPON CONSIE	ERATION of the De	efendant's M	otion to Modify Child Support Obligation,
it is this	day of	,	, by the Circuit Court for
	;		
ORDERED: Th	at the Defendant's	Child Suppo	rt Obligation be modified to reflect the
current income of the	Defendant during	his period of	incarceration, and his current obligation
to pay \$a	month be modified	d to \$	as of the date of the filing of the
Motion,	;		
AND IT IS FUR	THER ORDERED th	at this modif	ication will be in effect until
days after Defendant'	s release from inca	arceration;	
		Judge	

(Name)	*	
(Street address)	*	CIRCUIT COURT
(City, state, and zip code) Plaintiff	*	FOR
V.	*	
(Your name and ID#)	*	(county/city)
(Tour flame and 10#)	*	(county/city)
(Prison address)	^	
	*	CASE NO
(City, state and zip code) Defendant	*	
	FINANCIAL STATE	<u>:MENT</u>
I,	, state that:	
I am the father of the minor	child(ren):	
The following is a list of my income a	and expenses:	·
 Total monthly income (befor Child support I am paying fo 	•	\$ en
each month	-	\$
	ontii to	\$
(Name of person) 4. Alimony I am receiving each	month from	
(Name of person)		\$
Expenses for the child(ren) liste	ed above:	
		*
5. Monthly health insurance pre6. Work related monthly child ca		\$ \$
7. Extraordinary monthly medica		\$
8. School and transportation ex	penses	\$
I solemnly affirm under penalties of to the best of my knowledge, inform		contents of the foregoing paper are true
Date	Signa	ture

(Name)			*		
(Street	address)		- *	CIRCUIT COURT	
(City, st	ate, and zi Plainti		*	FOR	
	v.		*		
			*		<u> </u>
(Your na	ame and II	O#)	*	(county/city)	
(Prison	address)		- ^		
			*	CASE NO	
(City, st	ate and zip Defen		*		
		AND C	OTHER COU	i FEES, SHERIFF'S FEI RT COSTS er person states:	<u>ES,</u>
(Yo	our name)	, the belefit	iant, <u>in</u> <u>prop</u> i	<u>er</u> person states.	
1.	That the	e Defendant is filing the att	ached Motio	n to Modify Child Suppo	rt Obligation.
2.	That the	e Defendant is the legal and	d natural fat	ner of the minor child(re	n),
	(List the	e names and birth date of e	each child me	entioned in the Order)	
3.		e Defendant is currently un e he is impoverished due to			and other court costs
4.	That the	e Defendant is currently inc	arcerated at		
	ent funds ourt cost	or excess assets which cous.	ıld be used f	(Name of Prison or the payment of filing f	,
5.	That the	e answers to the following o	questions are	e true:	
	a)	Do you have any money?	How m	uch? Where?	
		Savings Account (bank's nan	ne, account nu	umber, and balance)	
		Checking Account (bank's na	ame, account i	number, and balance)	
	b)	Are you employed? How much do you make?	Where? \$	Position _ 	
	c)	Are you self-employed?your rate of pay?		hat?	What is
	d)	If you are not working, wh	en did you la	st work?	

e)	Do you own an automobile? Make Year Is it paid for? How much do you owe? To whom?		
f)	Do you owe any money to others? How much? To whom?		
g)	Do you own real estate? Value? Is it mortgaged? Total owed? Monthly Payment?		
h)	Do you own any other property or any kind? What?		
i)	Does anyone owe you money? If so, state name, address, and amount:		
j)	Do you receive money from social security, supplemental security income (SSI), workers' compensation or other disability benefits, public assistance, food stamps, settlements, judgments, trust funds, retirement, annuity, or pension payments? If so, how much and what is the source?		
k)	What is your inmate number?		
I)	Have you filed any other cases in state or federal court? If yes, then for each cast state who you sued, the case number, and the result of the case.		
m)	Do you have a prison job or other assignment? Please list your assignment and wages		
n)	Do you have a prison account? What is your account number? How much money is in your prison account? (Attached please find certified copies of my last two (2) inmate account states).		
WHEREFORE, th	ne Defendant requests:		
A.	That the Court waive filing fees, Sheriff's fees, and other court costs;		
В.	That he be awarded such and other further relief as the nature of his cause may require.		
	olemnly swear and affirm under the penalties of perjury that the contents of otion are true to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.		
Date	Defendant - <u>Pro se</u>		
Circuit Court for Case No.	·		
Plaintiff	v Defendant		
This Court grant	ORDER ts the foregoing Motion for Waiver of Filing Fees, Sheriff's Fees, and Other Court Costs.		
	JUDGE		