

Child Support Services

IV-D Guide

General Information

Title IV-D (pronounced four-dee) of the Social Security Act created the child support program and set the rules that all states' child support programs must follow. Child Support Services (CSS) helps any family who enrolls for services or needs to have a child support case open to receive benefits. IV-D services are provided at no cost to parents and non-parents who have a minor child or children in their household. Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) administers IV-D services according to federal and state law. *All IV-D attorneys represent the State of Kansas and not any of the parties.*

The IV-D Program Does:	The IV-D Program Does Not:
Make sure a child has two legal parents.	Guarantee that a parent will be found.
Assist with the legal process to start, change or end a support order.	Guarantee that child support will be collected.
Collect child support from payor's (person ordered to pay) resources.	Help with parenting time orders.

Parentage

Parentage is the finding of who is legally responsible for a child. In Kansas, two parties are identified as a child's legal parents. If a child does not have two parties identified as their legal parents, CSS will assist in establishing parentage.

Establish a Support Order

When there is not a court order for a parent to pay support and the child does not live in the same household as both parents, CSS will work to establish a support order. Child support is a set monthly court ordered amount. It is paid by the parent the court orders to pay support. The amount of support to be paid is based on standardized guidelines. The **Kansas Guidelines and FAQs** are available at kscourts.org/About-the-Courts/Programs/Child-Support-Guidelines. Medical support is also considered a form of child support. In the case of medical support, a parent provides health insurance coverage for their child(ren).

Enforcement of Support

An order for child support does not guarantee that child support will be paid by the payor each month. However, once there is an order of support in place, child support continues to be owed until it is paid in full. Child Support Services has a variety of ways to assist in collecting child support.

Some of the most common ways are:

- Withholding of support by an employer;
- Payment of past due support through federal and state debt set off programs; and
- Collection of support when unemployment is received.

Modification of Support

A child support order can be changed when there is a reason to do so. In Kansas this is called modification.

Some examples of a reason to change support are:

- The cost of childcare changes;
- Child changes age brackets;
- Child turns 18 or graduates from high school (emancipation);
- A parent goes to prison; or
- A parent starts receiving social security or other disability income.

The change process begins with a signed and completed **Domestic Relations Affidavit** from at least one parent, a motion to modify support and a child support worksheet with the proposed new amount. A hearing will be set. The change will not be made until a court order is filed with the new amount and the start date of the new amount.



The Kansas Payment Center (KPC) is the payment processing center for all Kansas child support and maintenance (spousal support) payments. The KPC does not establish or enforce support orders. Payment records are available at kspaycenter.com.

For payment options visit the KPC website:
kspaycenter.com



Contact Information

- For information about CSS,** visit: dcf.ks.gov/services/css.
- Find additional information about child support on the OCSE Child Support website at:** bit.ly/3owLRzQ.
- To download a CSS Enrollment Form,** go to: bit.ly/3MGLGd5.
- More in depth information is available in the CSS Handbook:** bit.ly/43gmqlc.
- Any questions or to ask for an Enrollment Form,** call CSS:
888-757-2445 | 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday except for state holidays.
- For payment information, please call the Kansas Payment Center (KPC):**
877-572-5722 | 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday except for state holidays or visit online at kspaycenter.com.

