

Child Support Services

Child support income can make a big difference in the life of a child. Next to earned income, child support has the greatest financial impact on a family with limited income.

Child Support Services helps single parents with low incomes negotiate child support agreements or court orders so they receive child-support money from the other parent.

How it works

Child Support Services recognizes that every family situation is unique. Caring and experienced staff work collaboratively with parents to ensure that their children get the support that they need.

Once Child Support Services receives a referral, the worker gathers information from both parents. If necessary, the worker can help locate the other parent and establish paternity.

The worker helps negotiate an agreement with the other parent for child support or pursues child support through a court order.

Workers then register the agreements and orders with the Maintenance Enforcement Program, which enforces, collects, and disburses support payments.

The process and what is expected of parents is different in each situation, but it usually only takes a couple of appointments with a Child Support Services worker.

Eligibility for Child Support Services

Custodial parents with low incomes are eligible for Child Support Services. Parents who are enrolled in the following programs are automatically eligible:

- Income Support
- Alberta Adult Health Benefit
- Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped (AISH)

Child Support Services are also available to families if:

- There is no existing support order;
- The other parent is capable of paying;
- And, their gross annual household income meets the following guidelines

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Maximum Income</u>
2 people	\$24,397
3 people	\$29,073
4 people	\$34,056
5 people	\$39,336
6 people	\$43,999
7 people	\$48,662

For more information, visit:

humanservices.alberta.ca/css

How to Apply

- Call or visit your nearest [Alberta Works](#) or [Alberta Supports](#) office.
- Call the Calgary or Edmonton Child Support Services offices:
 - Edmonton 780-415-6400
 - Calgary 403-297-6060
 - Call toll-free by dialing 310-0000 and asking for the nearest Child Support Services office.