

Am I Receiving the Full Amount?

Follow the steps below to calculate whether you received the full amount of current child support owed to you in any month:

1. Write the amount of weekly child support due here: \$_____

2. Write the number of Mondays in the month for which you are figuring the support owed. _____

3. Multiple line 1 by line 2 and write the total due for the month here. _____

4. Add up all the payments you received from the Office of Child Support Services and write the amount here. _____

a. If the amounts in lines 3 and 4 match, you received the correct amount of current child support for the month.

b. If the amount in line 4 is more than the amount in line 3, the additional money has been applied to arrears due to you.

c. If the amount in line 4 is less than amount in line 3, the difference has been added to the arrears the custodial parent owes

**More Questions?
Contact us**

RI Department of Human Services

Office of Child Support Services

77 Dorrance Street

Providence, RI 02903

Phone: (401) 458-4400

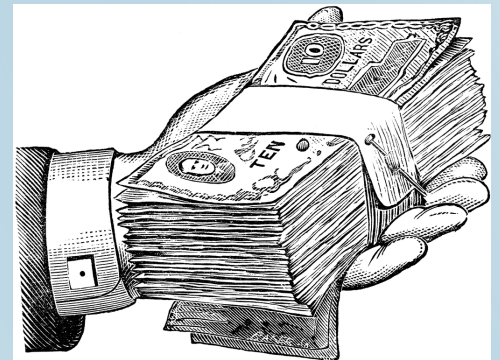
Fax: (401) 458-4465

Or visit our website at



Disbursement of Child Support

What you need to know



**State of Rhode Island
Department of Human services
Office of Child Support Services**



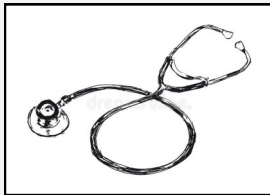
Disbursement Basics

Your child support order may state that the noncustodial parent must pay a weekly amount of support. For accounting purposes, the Office of Child Support Services converts all child support orders to monthly obligations based on the number of Mondays in a month.

Example: For a case with a support order of \$100.00 per week, a total of \$400.00 will be due in any month with four Mondays. When the Office of Child Support collects a payment, the money goes first to the current support due for that month. When all current support for the month is paid, any additional money will be used to pay past due support. If there are no arrears owed, the money is applied to the case and an over payment will be documented.

Medical Support Order

In addition to the child support order, there may also be a medical support order for an additional amount. The current support order will always be paid first for the full amount due and then funds will allocate to the current medical support order. Once both the current support order and medical support order have been paid, additional funds will be used to pay past due support and if not applicable, an over payment will be documented.



Unequal Payments

The Office of Child Support Services will send all payments they receive, up to the current support due for the month and past due support, to the custodial parent. If the noncustodial parent pays different amounts each week, or if a payment includes arrears owed, checks may be for different amounts week to week.

Noncustodial Parents with Multiple Families

A noncustodial parent may have multiple child support orders for different families. In that circumstance, if the noncustodial parent sends payments for less than the total amount due for all of the child support orders, the payments will be equally divided among all of the child support accounts based on the amount of the current orders. This ensures that each family is treated fairly. As a result of this, the custodial parent may receive different amounts each week and neither family may receive a full payment.

Example: A noncustodial parents has two child support orders; one child support order is for \$100.00 per week and one order is for \$200.00 per week. The noncustodial parent makes a \$150.00 payment. Because order two (2) is for twice as much money as order one (1), order one (1) will receive \$50.00 and order two (2) will receive \$100.00.

Past Due Support

If there is a current weekly support order owed to a custodial parent and the noncustodial parent also owes past due support for a period where the custodial parent received public assistance benefits, the custodial parent may receive checks in different amounts each week. This is because the Office of Child Support Services pays all of the current support owed for a month before applying any payment to past due support owed to Rhode Island.

In a month with four (4) Mondays, the noncustodial parent's employer may send a fifth regular weekly payment due to the payroll cycle. Because all of the current support due for the month has been paid, the Office of Child Support Services may credit the fifth payment to past due support owed rather than to next month's support.

