

## Child Support Services

### Program

Child Support Services helps single parents and parents of blended families negotiate child support agreements with the other parent of their children, or obtain court orders for support.

Child Support Services requires non-custodial parents to be financially responsible for their dependent children. This additional income helps families achieve or maintain financial independence.

### Clients

Co-operation with Child Support Services is mandatory for all single parents or parents of blended families who are receiving Income Support benefits and Alberta Adult Health Benefits (AAHB).

Child Support Services are also provided to clients who leave the Income Support or AAHB, programs.

When provision of Child Support Services to other low-income Albertans will not reduce or delay services to applicants receiving Income Support or AAHB, Child Support Services may also be provided to other low-income Albertans.

In these situations, services may be provided when there is no existing support order, there is a potential for support payments, and when the applicant meets the income eligibility criteria.

Income eligibility is based on the gross income from all sources within the household unit and varies according to the number of persons in the family as shown in the following table:

Family Unit	Maximum Gross Yearly Income
2 people	\$14,600
3 people	\$18,300
4 people	\$20,400
5 people	\$23,100
6 people	\$25,200
7 people	\$27,300

### Services

Once Child Support Services receives a referral, the worker gathers information from the applicant and the other parent, if possible. If necessary, the worker helps with locating the other parent, and establishing paternity. The worker negotiates an agreement with the other parent for child support, or pursues child support through a court order.

Agreements and applications for orders are prepared in accordance with established child support guidelines. Workers also register appropriate agreements and orders with the Maintenance Enforcement Program (Alberta Justice), which enforces, collects, and disburses support payments.

### To access the program or for more information

**Click:** [www.gov.ab.ca/hre/css](http://www.gov.ab.ca/hre/css)

**Call:** Edmonton (780) 415-6400 or  
Calgary (403) 297-6060  
Toll-free by first dialing 310-0000 and asking  
for the nearest Child Support Services office.