

Child Support Order

The Court **ORDERS** that this *Child Support Order* is fully incorporated into the: *(Check one.)*

- Order Modifying the Parent-Child Relationship* to which it is attached.
 Order Adjudicating Parentage to which it is attached.

1. Order to Pay Child Support

The Court **ORDERS** _____ (Obligor) to pay
(Print the name of the parent who will pay child support.)
child support to _____ (Obligee) for the
(Print the name of the parent who will receive child support.)
child/ren, _____,
(Print the name of each child for whom child support will be paid.)

in the amount and manner described below until one of the following **events that terminate child support** occurs for each child.

2. Events that Terminate Child Support *(See Texas Family Code Sections 154.006 and 154.002.)*

The obligation to pay child support for a child terminates (ends) when:

- The child turns 18, unless when the child turns 18 he or she is enrolled and complying with attendance requirements in a secondary school program leading toward a high school diploma or enrolled in courses for joint high school and junior college credit then child support terminates at the end of the month in which the child graduates. **-or-**
- The child marries, dies, or is emancipated by court order. **-or-**
- The child begins active duty in the United States armed forces. **-or-**
- A court terminates the parent-child relationship between the man ordered to pay child support and the child based on genetic testing that determines the man is not the child's father. **-or-**
- The person ordered to pay child support and the person ordered to receive child support marry or remarry each other, unless a nonparent or agency has been appointed conservator of the child.

3. Obligor and Obligee

The Court **ORDERS** that the parent ordered to pay child support above is the **Obligor** and will be referred to as the "**Obligor**" throughout this section.

The Court **ORDERS** that the parent ordered to receive child support above is the **Obligee** and will be referred to as the "**Obligee**" throughout this section.

4. Termination of Obligee's Obligation to pay current child support (if applicable)

*If the Obligee was the parent ordered to pay child support in the prior order, the Court **ORDERS** that the Obligee's obligation to pay current child support terminates (ends) on the date the Court signs this Order.*

This Order does not change Obligee's obligation to pay any past due child support or arrearage judgment.

5. Child Support Amount(s) Ordered

If only one child will receive support, check box **5A** and fill in the child support amount and start date.

If more than one child will receive support, check box **5B** and fill in the child support amounts and start date.

5A. For a Single Child

Obligor is **ORDERED** to pay \$ _____ child support per month. The 1st payment is due on _____. A like payment is due on the 1st day of each month after that **until** child support terminates for the child.

Month / Day / Year

5B. For Multiple Children

Obligor is **ORDERED** to pay \$ _____ child support per month. The 1st payment is due on _____. A like payment is due on the 1st day of each month after that **until** child support terminates for one child.

Month / Day / Year

After child support terminates for one child, Obligor is **ORDERED** to pay \$ _____ child support per month. The 1st payment is due on the 1st day of the 1st month after child support terminates for one child. A like payment is due on the 1st day of each month after that **until** child support terminates for a second child.

After child support terminates for two children, Obligor is **ORDERED** to pay \$ _____ child support per month. The 1st payment is due on the 1st day of the 1st month after child support terminates for a second child. A like payment is due on the 1st day of each month after that **until** child support terminates for a third child.

After child support terminates for three children, Obligor is **ORDERED** to pay \$ _____ child support per month. The 1st payment is due on the 1st day of the 1st month after child support terminates for a third child. A like payment is due on the 1st day of each month after that **until** child support terminates for a fourth child.

After child support terminates for four children, Obligor is **ORDERED** to pay \$ _____ child support per month. The 1st payment is due on the 1st day of the 1st month after child support terminates for a fourth child. A like payment is due on the 1st day of each month after that **until** child support terminates for a fifth child.

After child support terminates for five children, Obligor is **ORDERED** to pay \$ _____ child support per month. The 1st payment is due on the 1st day of the 1st month after child support terminates for a fifth child. A like payment is due on the 1st day of each month after that **until** child support terminates for a sixth child.

Warning! Do **not** pay child support directly to the other parent. Send all child support payments to the **Texas Child Support Disbursement Unit, PO Box 659791, San Antonio, TX 78265**. If you pay child support directly to the other parent, you won't get credit and you may have to pay again!

6. Place of Payment

The Court ORDERS Obligor to send all child support payments to the **Texas Child Support State Disbursement Unit, PO Box 659791, San Antonio, TX 78265**, for distribution according to law.

The Court ORDERS Obligor to include the following information with each payment:

- Name of parent ordered to *pay* child support, **and**
- Name of parent ordered to *receive* child support, **and**
- Cause Number and County of Decree or Order, **and**
- Attorney General Case Number, if applicable.

Payments should be made out to the Texas State Disbursement Unit or TXSDU.

7. No Credit for Informal Payments

IT IS ORDERED that money paid by Obligor directly to Obligee or spent while in possession of the child/ren does **NOT** count as child support and shall be deemed in addition to and not instead of the support ordered in this order.

8. Child Support Account / Fees

Each parent is ORDERED to:

- Fill out any forms necessary to set up a child support account, **and**
- Take the forms to the local Domestic Relations Office or county child support liaison within 5 days after the judge orders child support, **and**
- Pay when due all fees charged to that parent by the state disbursement unit and any other agency authorized by law to a charge a fee for the collection and distribution of child support.

9. Guideline or Non-Guideline Support

The Court finds that the child support ordered above is:

- Guideline Support:** The amount of child support is approximately the amount recommended by the Texas Family Code Child Support Guidelines. *See Texas Family Code, Chapter 154, Subchapter C.*
- Non-Guideline Support:** The amount of child support differs significantly from the amount recommended by the Texas Family Code Child Support Guidelines.

(If the amount ordered is not based on the guidelines, you must also provide the following information.)

The net monthly income/resources of the Obligor is \$ _____.

The net monthly income/resources of the Obligee is \$ _____.

Guideline child support would be _____ % of Obligor's net monthly resources, which is \$ _____ per month.

The **actual** monthly child support amount ordered is \$ _____, which is _____ % of Obligor's net monthly income/resources.

Guideline child support would be unjust or inappropriate under the circumstances because:

10. Income Withholding

IT IS ORDERED that any employer of Obligor is ordered to withhold child support from Obligor's disposable earnings. If an income withholding for support order is served on Obligor's employer, the employer shall withhold child support payments from Obligor's pay, and send it to the **Texas Child Support Disbursement Unit, PO Box 659791, San Antonio, TX 78265**, where the payments shall be recorded, and forwarded to Obligee. All child support withheld and paid in accordance with this order shall be credited against Obligor's child support obligation.

If the employer withholds less than 100% of the child support ordered, Obligor is ORDERED to send the balance owed to the **Texas Child Support Disbursement Unit, PO Box 659791, San Antonio, TX 78265**.

If an income withholding for support order is not served on the employer, or if Obligor's is self-employed or unemployed, Obligor's is ORDERED to send all child support payments to the **Texas Child Support Disbursement Unit, PO Box 659791, San Antonio, TX 78265**.

IT IS ORDERED that the Clerk of this Court shall cause a certified copy of the income withholding for support order to be delivered to any employer of Obligor, if asked to do so by Obligor, Obligee, a prosecuting attorney, the title IV-D agency, a friend of the Court, or a domestic relations office.

11. Suspension of Income Withholding

Check here if all parties agree not to have the employer withhold child support payments at this time.

The parties agree, and the Court ORDERS that an income withholding for support order shall not be served on the employer **unless**:

- 1) child support payments are more than 30 days late, **or**
- 2) the past due amount is the same or more than the monthly child support amount, **or**
- 3) another violation of this child support order occurs, **or**
- 4) the Office of the Attorney General Child Support Division is providing services to Obligee.

Obligor is ORDERED to send all child support payments to the **Texas Child Support Disbursement Unit, PO Box 659791, San Antonio, TX 78265**, where the payment will be recorded, and forwarded to Obligee.

12. Change of Employment

Obligor is ORDERED to notify this Court and Obligee by U.S. certified mail, return receipt requested, of any change of address and of any termination of employment. This notice shall be given no later than **7 days** after the change of address or the termination of employment. This notice or a subsequent notice shall also provide the current address of Obligor and the name and address of Obligor's current employer, whenever that information becomes available.

13. Child Support After Death

IT IS ORDERED that the provisions for child support in this decree shall be an obligation of Obligor's estate and shall not terminate on his/her death. Payments received for the benefit of the child/ren, including payments from the Social Security Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, or other governmental agency or life insurance proceeds, annuity payments, trust distributions, or retirement survivor benefits, shall be a credit against this obligation. Any remaining balance of the child support is an obligation of Obligor's estate.

14. Life Insurance Policy *Check box below if the person ordered to pay child support should also be ordered to maintain a life insurance policy for as long as child support is ordered.*

As additional child support, the person paying child support under this order is ORDERED to obtain and maintain a life insurance policy on his or her life for as long as child support is ordered. The value of the policy shall be at least as much as the total child support obligation. The person receiving child support under this order must be named as the primary beneficiary for the benefit of the children.

NOTICE REGARDING MODIFYING (CHANGING) THIS CHILD SUPPORT ORDER

THE COURT MAY MODIFY THIS ORDER THAT PROVIDES FOR THE SUPPORT OF A CHILD, IF:

- (1) THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CHILD OR A PERSON AFFECTED BY THE ORDER HAVE MATERIALLY OR SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGED; OR
- (2) IT HAS BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE THE ORDER WAS RENDERED OR LAST MODIFIED AND THE MONTHLY AMOUNT OF THE CHILD SUPPORT AWARD UNDER THE ORDER DIFFERS BY EITHER 20 PERCENT OR \$100 FROM THE AMOUNT THAT WOULD BE AWARDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHILD SUPPORT GUIDELINES.