

Child Support Debt Reduction Program

CALIFORNIA
CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES



What Is The Child Support Debt Reduction Program?

The Debt Reduction Program provides eligible parents with past-due child support payments the opportunity to reduce the amount they owe to the government. This debt, called “arrears,” is owed to the government if your dependent children received public assistance (welfare) or were in foster care while you were not paying court-ordered child support. Those programs are paid for by the state using taxpayer dollars, and federal and state law require that you reimburse the state for supporting your children during that time. If you qualify, you will be able to offer a compromise repayment to the state. In other words, you may offer to reduce the debt by paying an amount that is less than the full amount you owe. Any reduction in your arrears and interest owed will be based on your income and assets.

Each person’s child support case, or cases, is different. Arrears may be paid off all at once in a lump sum, or over time in a payment plan, depending upon the details of your case.

How do I qualify?

You must be able to pay both your current child support obligation and an ongoing debt payment. Your current income, assets, expenses, and the size and makeup of your family are all taken into account.

How do I apply?

Contact your local child support agency. If you qualify, you will be able to offer a compromise repayment to the state and reduce the debt by paying an amount that is less than the full amount you owe.

For more information visit:

www.childsupport.ca.gov

Contact California Child Support Services:

866-901-3212 (toll-free within the U.S.)

866-399-4096 (TTY)