



What you need to know prior to using Child Support Conciliation

CDRC’s Child Support Conciliation Program is offered to parties who are in agreement to either establish a support court order, modify their current support court order or terminate an order of support and are all in agreement to do so.

* “The Child Support Standards Act” is the name given to a set of laws that contain a formula for calculating child support. It establishes child support amounts that allow children to have an appropriate standard of living, based on the income of their parents. Both parent’s incomes are considered in the formula, even if they have joint custody, because both parents have the duty to support their children. Please see the NYS Guidelines for Child Support at the following: <https://www.childsupport.ny.gov/dcse/pdfs/CSSA.pdf>

*If either party receives Social Security Income (SSI) or State related cash assistance (DSS) CDRC cannot offer Child Support services.

*Custody must be established through a Family Court Order or a Divorce Decree before we can go forward with child support.

If you are interested in establishing custody CDRC can provide Parenting Plan Mediation for that purpose, just ask.

*Parties may agree between themselves to amounts different than those established by the Support Standards Act, but a Court may or may not accept the agreement. Any amount agreed upon deviating from the basic child support obligation and the reasons for the different amount must be stated in the agreement and the order.

*By New York State Law all children must be covered by health insurance; because of this all Child Support decisions must include who is going to provide health care coverage, and unreimbursed health care expenses. Cost of health care premiums may be deducted from or added to the support payment on a pro-rated basis.

*Child Support decisions must also include child care and/or optional educational expenses, and how they will be covered.

*Parties must provide to CDRC staff before the case can proceed:

- *Information about Gross Annual Pay for all parties.
- *Health insurance information
- *Child Care Information
- *Education Expenses-this is optional

Please call The Support Conciliation Team at 607.734.9087 if you have questions.