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FAQs About Child Support



Kansas Child Support: What to Do If Your Income Changes and

How to File for Adjustments

Need Legal Assistance?

If you are struggling to understand these guidelines or need help filing a motion, please contact Kansas Legal Services or a local attorney immediately. Delay can impact your rights and obligations.

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I make less than when my child support amount was set. How do I change the amount I pay?

The Court must order a reduction of child support, based on a request of the parent. This request is called a motion, which must be filed with the Clerk of the District Court and set for a hearing.

→ Use the form: [Motion to Modify Child Support.](#)

Procedural Note

→ There will be a filing fee of \$62 for filing the motion unless you qualify for a waiver of the filing fee. You can find the [Request to Waive Filing Fees](#) form online.

Important Considerations:

- → If you left a higher paying job voluntarily or were terminated for misconduct, the Court may continue to use your higher wages (Imputed Income) as the basis for figuring your child support.
- → If the change is due to the loss of a job, you need to file something **quickly** as the Judge cannot change support for the past.

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How do I get child support to stop?

If you believe child support should stop (e.g., due to a change in parenting time or child's age), you need to get the court order modified.

CRITICAL DEADLINE WARNING:

→ You should file soon after circumstances change, since it is **not possible to go back in time** and reset the child support due (arrears).

Age-Based Reduction:

- → If one child turns 18 (and finishes high school), and there are other children under 18, there is an **automatic reduction** based on the % reduction in the number of children.
- → You can still file a motion to modify if the calculation shows support should be reduced by more than the automatic percentage.

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How do I file a motion to change the amount of child support, up or down?

If you qualify (typically for a change of 10% or more), you should file your motion as soon as possible.

Worksheet Requirement:

→ Use the free [Child Support Worksheet](#) (KLS interactive form) when the combined income of both parents is less than \$50,000.

**Note: If combined income is over \$50,000, you will need to find a worksheet from another source.*

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What is the Kansas Payment Center? Where can I go to see if child support was paid to me?

All payments under Kansas child support orders are paid through the Kansas Payment Center (KPC).

- → Any payment not paid through the KPC may not be recorded as a real payment under the Court Order.
- → Either parent can review payment records on the KPC website: www.kspaycenter.com.
- → For direct deposit, use the forms on the KPC website to alert them of your bank account. This speeds up receipt of payment.
- → If you change banks, update your direct deposit information using the KPC form, requiring information and a VOIDED check.

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How do I find out what I owe in back support (Arrears)?

Arrears is the amount of support that has become due every month and is unpaid. **No Judge can make the arrears go away.**

To calculate your arrears, follow these steps:

1. **Step 1:** Determine the total amount of support ordered since the initial order (Month x Amount). Adjust for any changes in the ordered amount.
2. **Step 2:** Determine the total amount of all payments made, which should be found at www.kspaycenter.com.
3. **Step 3:** Deduct payments from the total ordered support to find the arrears amount.
4. **Step 4 (Optional):** If an order allows for interest, calculate it at 10% a year (KSA 16-204).

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Are there any cautions about filing a motion to increase child support?

CAUTION: Multi-Family Adjustment Risk

- → When you file a motion to **increase** support, the paying parent can include "after born" children (younger children not considered previously).
- → The inclusion of those children (using the multi-family adjustment) can end up **reducing the amount of support paid to you.**
- → **Be careful! Consider the effect of these children before filing the motion to increase support.**

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What is the connection between child support and seeing my children?

Can I stop paying because the mother won't let me see my children?

Kansas law is specific: There is **no "right" to see your child that is earned by paying child support.**

Alternatively, there is no "right" to withhold parenting time because a parent does not pay child support.

- → Both child support and parenting time are separate Court orders.
- → Failure to follow either order can expose the parent to a finding of "contempt of Court," which can result in a fine, jail time, or other sanctions.

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What is "Imputed Income"?

The Court will always assume that each parent can make **minimum wage, full time** (currently about \$1256 a month). This is called imputed wages/income.

CRITICAL: Retroactive Support Changes

Can the Judge change support for the past?

→ **NO.** Every month that ends creates a final legal judgment of child support due. Any motion seeking a change in child support can only change support beginning in the next month after the motion is filed.

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Last updated on November 25, 2025.

Files

[Domestic Relations Affidavit \(9-2016\)_0.pdf](#)

[Short Form Domestic Relations Affidavit 7-2016.pdf](#)

[KS Child Support Guidelines 2020.pdf](#)

[Instructions for Motion for Modification of Child Support 2020.pdf](#)

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