



CALIFORNIA'S CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM: A Resource for Parents ...

■ What if I am served with legal papers while I am incarcerated?

A Summons and Complaint is the first step in the child support process and your chance to tell the child support office about your situation. You only have 30 days to file the form called an "Answer To Complaint" that is attached to the Summons and Complaint or to contact the child support office if you do not agree with what the papers say.

■ What if I am not sure if I'm the child's father?

If paternity (legal fatherhood) has not been established, you can request free **DNA** testing to make sure you are the father. The testing can be done while you are incarcerated **but you must request it**.

■ What if I don't complete and return the "Answer To Complaint?"

You will legally become the child's father and may be ordered to pay child support.

■ I already have a child support order. Will that order continue while I'm incarcerated?

YES. Once a child support order is in place, you will continue to owe child support each and every month. You must act immediately to get your child support order changed. Being incarcerated does not automatically change your obligation to support your children. If you do not pay your child support, 10% interest will be added any unpaid amount.

■ How do I get my child support order changed?

Complete the **Incarcerated Parent's Request to Review Child Support** form available at your institution and mail it to your Local Child Support Agency (LCSA). Once this form is received it will be forwarded to the child support agency that manages your case for a review to determine if you are eligible for a modification of your child support order.

Remember that even after mailing the form it takes time to process and your child support obligation will continue until your child support order is changed.

GET THE FORM - FILL IT OUT - TURN IT IN

Don't put it off because the longer you wait the more money you will owe. It is your responsibility to contact the child support office and follow up to make sure your child support is lowered or stopped.

Contact your local child support office: 1-866-901-3212, or: TTY: 1-866-399-4096



Child Support
Directors Association

*A Coalition of Experts Collecting Billions
for California's Children*

"Child Support... An Investment in the Future of Our Children"

CHILD SUPPORT DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION

www.csdaca.org