



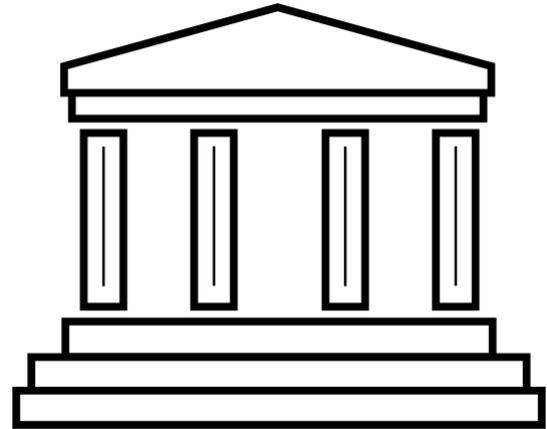
2020 Collections

OCSS collected nearly \$863 million in child support in 2020, a 10% increase over 2019. Some of this increase was due to the required intercepting of the federal government's \$1,200 economic impact payments. The new \$600 stimulus checks will not be intercepted, unlike the earlier COVID stimulus check. We continue to be proud of the increased collections OCSS achieves each year, while we remain mindful of the importance of aligning child support orders with noncustodial parents' ability to pay. We continue to extend noncustodial parents opportunities to reduce their child support debt owed to the government and to connect to employment. We believe this balanced approach is a win-win model in the best interest of families and children.



Cash Assistance Applicants

OCSS has replaced our in-person Borough Office appointments with telephone appointments for Cash Assistance applicants with mandatory child support referrals. In general, clients will be mailed a notice and asked to complete, sign, and return the child support application and copies of documents to OCSS at dcse.cseweb@dfa.state.ny.us or by U.S. mail. It is most important that clients sign and return this application form. If information is missing, a telephone appointment will be scheduled with the client. The process includes multiple reminder notices. This year, clients who qualify will be asked if they are interested in entering into a stipulated agreement to be approved by the Court and converted into a child support order. Participation is voluntary. Stipulated agreements should speed up the process and allow parents to feel engaged, thereby reducing the burden on the Court and potentially leading to more noncustodial parents' consistently paying their child support.



Court Update

Family Court is now accepting child support establishment and modification petitions, stipulated agreements, and motion requests. These can be submitted through the Court's electronic document delivery system, EDDS, on their [website](#), by U.S. mail addressed to the appropriate county Family Court, or by phoning 212-343-1122 (LIFT), 646-877-6050 or 332-215-5389 (OCSS), or 646-386-5299 (Family Court) for assistance. The date of contact with the Court and postmark will be recorded and may help establish a retroactive date. No conferences or hearings will be scheduled on these cases at this time. Litigants who indicate in Court that they would have filed a petition but were informed the Court was not open should make this point to the support magistrate. Support magistrates will consider setting the date retroactively to the date the parent would have filed a petition. For pending cases, the Family Court is trying to reach parties by telephone, email, and mail to notify them of an upcoming hearing. Litigants with a pending hearing can call the Court, and the Court will schedule a hearing.



In The Know

Credit and Debit Cards

Fridays 9am to 5pm, child support payments can be made by phone with credit or debit cards. CALL: 929-252-5201

Back Issues

For your reference, we have posted back issues of our monthly newsletter, *Child Support in the Community*. VISIT: nyc.gov/hra/ocss