

Will my COVID-19 stimulus money be intercepted for past due child support?

On March 27, 2020 the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES) act was passed granting stimulus money to qualifying individuals with a recovery amount of up to \$1,200 (or \$2,400 if married filing jointly), plus up to \$500 for each qualifying child. The Act does not grant an exemption for past due child support debt. If you owe past due child support, the stimulus money will be intercepted in the same manner as a tax intercept and will adhere to the same fees, distribution timeframes, and hold periods as federal tax refund offsets. It appears an injured spouse claim may be filed, like on a tax intercept. The IRS is working on this issue on how injured spouse claims will be filed and release information to states and local agencies as more information becomes available.

[Custody and Parenting Time FAQs for COVID-19](#)

Do I still have to send my children for parenting time?

Yes. All court orders remain in full force and effect. The executive order 2020-21 7(b)(4) issued by Governor Whitmer speaks to Friend of Court orders:

7(b) Individuals may also travel:

(4) As required by law enforcement or a court order, including the transportation of children pursuant to a custody agreement.

What do I do if I need to come in person to the office?

There will be no in-person customer service. Instead, it will be provided remotely. The preferred method to reach us is by email or fax. Due to staffing limits to comply with COVID-19 requirements, we are unable to answer routine telephone calls. Email is essential to help you through this crisis and get you the information you need. In certain circumstances, a staff member may be able to return your call on an as-needed basis. Please utilize email as the preferred method of contact.

What do I do if I need to submit documentation to the Friend of the Court?

All written correspondence submitted to the Friend of the Court should be submitted electronically to foc@stclaircounty.org until further notice or by fax at 810-985-2180.

What do I do if I can't submit it electronically?

We understand everyone may not have access to email or a scanner to submit their documentation. As mentioned, the preferred method is by email. If you cannot attach documentation to your email because you don't have a scanner, consider taking a picture of it and attaching it to your email. If you are still not able to do that, mail it in but please understand there could be delays with receiving your documentation.

What do I do if I need to make a payment?

Payments will no longer be accepted in person at the office. You may pay via credit card or utilize PayNearMe to make a payment on your account. Please follow the link for the many ways you may make a payment: <https://www.misdu.com/secure/default.aspx>

What if I need to post bond on a warrant?

If you need to post a bond, please email FOC@stclaircounty.org with your questions.

How long will this change remain in effect? What else could occur?

The FOC is closely monitoring COVID-19 issues locally and statewide. Actions will be implemented based upon local and state recommendations from our public officials.

My child(ren) are out of school due to Governor Whitmer's executive order. When does the summer parenting time schedule start?

The FOC will be enforcing summer parenting time schedules in accordance with the adopted 2019-2020 calendar issued by your child's district prior to releasing the child(ren) from school under the executive order. You are free to agree to an alternative arrangement but it is recommended you get it in writing.

What options do I have if I want to modify my current parenting time schedule?

If subsequent changes in the school schedule make your parenting time schedule difficult or impractical, you may file a motion, you may reach an agreement with the other party to revise the parenting time schedule, or you may request alternative dispute resolution services. If filing a motion, your ability to secure a hearing date may be delayed due to staffing and safety limitations implemented during this state of emergency.

My child is turning 18. When will support end?

If your order has a date-certain when support will end, it will stop on that date. For children who are already 18, support will stop on the last day of the month when your child would have attended school full time according to your child's 2019-2020 school calendar year.

I need to modify an order. What should I do?

First, attempt to work through the issue with the other parent to reach an agreement and place it in writing. If you need the assistance of a neutral third party to help you reach an agreement, we can offer you alternative dispute resolution services. These options are provided to you at no cost. If you cannot reach an agreement, or are unable to work through an issue through alternative dispute resolution, your issue may be scheduled for a referee hearing. Some matters may require you to file a motion and pay a filing fee. You will be informed if a filing fee is needed.

What if I have additional questions?

Please email FOC@stclaircounty.org. Be sure to include your case number, name and contact information.