



# Child Support Recalculation Service

## General Information Fact Sheet

**The Child Support Recalculation Service (CSRS)** is a free, administrative program that reviews eligible orders and written agreements for child support each year. CSRS adjusts the amount of child support payable if the paying parent's income has gone up or down.

Our goal is to help families keep child support amounts updated so they can avoid the time and expense of having to ask a court to review their child support.

**Who can use CSRS?** Parents (recipients and payors) may use the service if:

- ✓ They both live in BC.
- ✓ Have an order made or an agreement filed in a British Columbia Provincial Court.
- ✓ Their child support is for a table amount (an amount that is fixed using the *Child Support Guidelines* tables) and is generally based on the parent's actual income.

**Can CSRS recalculate all child support orders?** No, the service cannot recalculate when a payor's income (and the recipient's income if their income was also used for the calculation of child support) was based on:

- x Imputed income,
- x Self-employment income or partnership income,
- x Pattern of income,
- x Undue hardship,
- x Age of majority (where factors other than the table amounts have been applied),
- x Shared parenting time (where factors other than the table amounts of each parent have been applied),
- x Income over \$150,000 and the table amount not applied, or
- x Payor stands in the place of a parent (eg. step-parent).

We can't recalculate child support arrears (unpaid amounts) either. If parents can't agree on arrears, it would be a judge who can cancel or reduce child support arrears through a court application.

**What if an order includes special expenses?** We may recalculate the proportion each parent owes if the order or agreement includes the proportionate share each of them must pay for the expense based on their incomes.

**How do you enrol?** Either parent can apply to enrol in the service. If one parent enrolls, the other parent named in the order or agreement is automatically enrolled. You can apply by contacting the CSRS (contact information below), and as of April 4, 2022 you will be able to apply online at [childsupportrecalc.gov.bc.ca](http://childsupportrecalc.gov.bc.ca)

We may also receive orders directly from a court registry if a judge makes an order for child support and determines that it be recalculated by the service.

**Questions?**  
Contact us:

**Ministry of Attorney General**  
Child Support Recalculation Service

PO Box 2074 Stn Main  
Vancouver BC V6B 3S3

Toll-free: 1-866-660-2684  
Facsimile: (604) 660-2678



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**How is child support recalculated?** Child support recalculation does not happen immediately. For eligible orders and agreements, the **recalculation process takes about four months** before a new child support amount becomes payable. This is because the service must send important notices to parties prior to recalculation and allow them time to review and respond, if appropriate.

### Each year, the service:

1. **Sets a recalculation schedule, which includes a “recalculation anniversary date”**, the date when a new child support amount will start. Generally, the anniversary date falls on the date of the order; however, CSRS may use another date instead if other circumstances impact the timing of recalculation.
2. Asks payors (and some recipients if their income is also required), before the recalculation anniversary date, **to provide their income tax information** filed with Canada Revenue Agency for the most recent tax year.
3. Sends both parents a **Statement of Recalculation**, a copy of which is filed with the court and includes:
  - the new child support amount (if there is a change of at least \$5.00 from the current amount),
  - the parent’s income information used to arrive at the recalculated amount, and
  - the date when the new amount becomes payable.

CSRS will also send a copy of a Statement of Recalculation to the Family Maintenance Enforcement Program (FMEP) at the BC Family Maintenance Agency if parents have an FMEP file.

**What happens if the other parent doesn’t cooperate and provide income information as requested?** The service can apply a “deemed” income increase by adding **10 to 30 percent** to the most recent income amount used in the child support order, agreement or a recalculation statement. The rate of increase depends on how much time has passed since child support was last reviewed. We then recalculate child support using the increased income amount.

**What if the other parent or I disagree with the recalculated child support amount?** You can make an application to court within 30 days of receiving the recalculation statement. If this happens, the new recalculated support amount does not take effect. A judge will decide on child support.

**Can I withdraw from the service?** You can withdraw if:

- your order doesn’t require you to have your child support recalculated by the service;
- we receive your written request to withdraw at least 60 days before the annual recalculation date (“recalculation anniversary date”); and
- the other parent also agrees to withdraw. (Both parents **must** agree.)

**Can I speak to a Recalculation Officer?** Yes, call the CSRS toll-free line at: 1-866-660-2684

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