



## How do I register?

Once you have a court order or an agreement for child or spousal support, you can register it with the Family Support Program. To register, you must fill out a registration kit and send it to the Family Support Program staff at the Family Support Office in Iqaluit.

Make sure that you provide as much up-to-date information as possible about the payer. If you have been receiving payments already, you should provide a list of the payments you have received to date.

After your order or agreement is registered with the Family Support Program, we will try to collect the support payments from the payer and deliver them to you. Collection is not always guaranteed because there may be circumstances where it is impossible to collect money from the payer.

## What happens when I register?

Once you have registered with the Family Support Program all support payments must be made to the Family Support Office. This means that you cannot receive payments directly from the payer. The payments will be recorded by the Family Support Office staff and then forwarded to you.

The Family Support Office is there to help you get regular payments for support. As long as the Family Support Office knows where the payer is working, you should get regular payments.

## What if I move?

If you move to another province, territory or country you still may be able to receive support payments. The support order can be transferred to wherever you move and be enforced by any other jurisdiction in Canada. Please contact the Family Support Program for assistance. If you move back to Nunavut let the Family Support Program know.

## How can I help the Family Support Program collect payments for me?

The Family Support Program staff would like to help you collect your payments for support they need your help to do so. Information and assistance about the payer's address, where he or she works, bank accounts, property or other sources of income would help the program collect payments for you. (It is important that you provide as much information as you can about the payer to the Family Support Office so that they can try to collect your payments for you.) We will do our best to collect regular payments from the payer. However, collection is not guaranteed.

## Definitions.

### **Family Support Program**

This program used to be called the Maintenance Program. Although the name has changed, the role of the program stays the same. The purpose of the Family Support Program is to ensure that child and spousal support payments are paid. The Program is run out of the new Family Support Office at the Courthouse (Arnakallak Building) in Iqaluit. One of the things that the Family Support Office is responsible for is the collection of money for you (as recipient).

### **Family Support/ Maintenance**

Family support obligations arise when couples separate and/or divorce, or when people have a child together.

You may be entitled to support for you and/or your child(ren):

- when there is a court order stating that the other parent pay child support to you for his/her child(ren). This is regardless of whether or not you were married or living common-law at anytime during your relationship with the other parent
- if there is an order by the court for your former spouse to pay you money. This is called spousal support.
- if you have entered an agreement with the other parent/former that she/he will make support payments to you.

### **Payer**

This is the person who has to pay the support. If you have an order to pay child or spousal support, then you are the payer.

### **Recipient**

This is the person who is to receive the support payments.

### **Support Order**

Support orders can also be called maintenance orders. A support order is a court order, or a written agreement, which requires the payer to pay a specific amount of money on specific dates to a payer for child and/or for a spouse.

One of the functions of the Family Support Program is to assist the recipient in obtaining support payments. In order to do this, the Family Support Program staff have different powers to try to collect (or enforce) the support order. Steps are usually taken when payments are not made or when the payer is in arrears.

### **Arrears**

It is the amount of support payments that the payer has missed and owes to the recipient.