Not getting child support? Here's how to get help

1. The Child Support office in your county can help you

Are you raising a child under age 18? Or older, in a few cases? Are you not getting child support payments from the child’s parent? You can get help to get child support for free or almost free.

• It doesn’t matter how much income you have.
• You don’t have to be getting Families First payments.
• You don’t have to be a citizen or legal immigrant.
• You don’t need to have legal custody. You can just be raising the child.
• Do you get Families First? You may also get some of the child support. Have questions about this? Your Families First worker can help.

2. How to get child support help

If you get Families First payments, DHS signs you up to get child support help. To get child support help if you don’t get Families First, you must apply on paper. You can get the application paper by calling your child support office. To find your counties office number, call 1-615-313-4880. Then hit the 1 button on your phone.

Or do you want to get an application paper from the internet? Then go to tn.gov/humanservices/topic/child-support-services on the internet. Click on “Apply online.”

3. Are you signed up for child support but not getting it? Or did you get court-ordered child support, but it stopped?

Call your child support worker or a customer services representative. If they don’t call back, ask to speak to a supervisor.

Still not getting the help you need? The main child support office in Tennessee can help you. Send them the letter on the back of this page. Or, you can call them at 615-313-4880 and press 7 on your phone.
Date: _______________

[Parent, send this letter to:]  
Assistant Commissioner  
Family Assistance and Child Support Services  
Tennessee Department of Human Services  
400 Deaderick Street, 15th Floor  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1403

Dear Assistant Commissioner:

I am writing for help getting child support for my child. Please help me.  
[Parent, want to say more about this? Write it below. If you have a lot to write, use another paper. Send it in with this paper. Keep a copy.]

My name is ____________________________________________________________________________

First                                     Middle                      Last

My Social Security number or child support number: ________________________________________

My address: ____________________________________________________________________________

My daytime phone (______)_____________________ [The Department of Human Services will contact you.]

Children needing child support               Date of Birth               Other parent’s name
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Thank you for looking into my case. Please tell me if there is anything else I can do to help. I hope to hear from you soon. My child really needs this child support.

Sincerely,

X _________________________________________  

[Parent, sign above. Keep this letter. Make a copy to mail.]