Child Maintenance

What you need to know

We need this information to update your claim
You must supply the information within 14 days of any change

I am not receiving maintenance from an ex-partner

If you are getting Income Support you are expected to seek maintenance for all of your children with an ex-partner. You must:

- Confirm who is the parent of the child
- Prove to us that you are taking legal action towards obtaining maintenance – for example, contact with Citizens Advice Bureau to see if you are entitled to Legal Aid

Frequently Asked Questions

What happens if I don’t seek maintenance?
If you choose not to seek maintenance for a child then you will get less Income Support. You will lose the equivalent of the child component of £63.98 per week.

What happens if I already have a court order but they are refusing to pay?
You must take further action to seek payments, including taking someone to the Petty Debts court, seeking wage arrests etc.

What happens if they are already on benefits and can’t afford to pay?
Provide a letter from them to confirm this and we will advise you whether you need to do anything else.

I am making maintenance payments to an ex-partner

We will need a copy of your written maintenance agreement. It should show:

- How much maintenance you are paying out
- How often you are paying

Frequently Asked Questions

I’m unemployed and still making maintenance payments; will this affect my Income Support?
No. We don’t recognise maintenance expenses for anyone who is not working.

I’m employed and making maintenance payments of £100.00 per week, will you recognise this?
No. We only recognise maintenance expenses up to the value of the child component (£63.98 per week)

Where is the Citizens Advice Bureau?

St Paul’s Centre
New Street
St Helier
JE2 3WP

The Bureau is open Monday to Friday from 10.00am to 3.00pm for walk in clients and appointments.

Freephone: 0800 735 0249 or 724942
Email: advice@cab.org.je
Website: www.cab.org.je/
FAILURE TO NOTIFY INCOME SUPPORT WITHIN 14 DAYS OF A CHANGE MAY AFFECT
YOUR BENEFIT PAYMENTS

This is NOT a complete list. If you are not sure, ask us for advice. You MUST tell Income Support about any changes and provide official supporting documents.

If you do not tell us about any changes, you may lose benefit that you could be entitled to or you may be overpaid benefit which you may have to repay.

You must make sure you tell Income Support about any changes that affect any member of your household; do not rely on someone else to pass the information on.

PLEASE NOTE THAT FAILURE TO NOTIFY INCOME SUPPORT OF ANY CHANGES IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE. ANY OVERPAYMENT MAY BE RECOVERABLE AND YOU MAY HAVE TO GO TO COURT

We can be contacted by email, phone or a visit to the Income Support zone;

Social Security Department
P.O. Box 55
La Motte Street
St. Helier
JE4 8PE
Jersey

Tel: +44 (0)1534 445505
Fax: +44 (0)1534 447447
Email: Income.Support@gov.je

Privacy Statement
The Social Security Department collects information for the purpose of dealing with all matters relating to the benefits and services it administers. We may check information about you with other information we have. We will not give information about you to anyone outside the Department unless the law allows us to or we have your consent. The Social Security Department is the Data Controller for the purposes of the Data Protection (Jersey) Law 2005.