

## DID YOU KNOW ?

- *You may be eligible to reduce your child support balance with our Compromise of Arrears Program.*
- *There is a special compromise opportunity for certain military personnel.*
- *The compromised amount is determined by our office based on the facts of the case and the non-custodial parent's financial circumstances.*

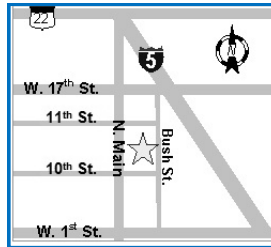
Take advantage of COAP and reduce your debt by asking one of our representatives if you qualify for an application.

We've helped parents eliminate over 2 million dollars in past due child support!



Orange County  
Department of  
Child Support Services

Steven Eldred, Director



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**Customer Service Center** is open Monday - Friday from 7:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and one Saturday each month.

Visit our website for details: [www.css.ocgov.com](http://www.css.ocgov.com)

### Customer Connect

California's Self-Service Website

[www.childsup-connect.ca.gov](http://www.childsup-connect.ca.gov)



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OC Department of Child Support Services



This pamphlet is intended to explain the general procedures of the Department of Child Support Services and should be used for informational purposes only.

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Orange County  
Department of  
Child Support Services



# Compromise of Arrears Program (COAP)

Reduce Your Past Due Child  
Support Balance

## WHAT IS COAP?

The Compromise of Arrears Program (COAP) is a program designed to eliminate or reduce the amount of child support arrears owed to the government. In certain child support cases, a non-custodial parent may qualify to pay less than his or her child support debt because their child received public assistance during a time that he or she did not pay the court ordered child support. This is called a compromise of arrears.

## COAP ELIGIBILITY:

The non-custodial parent may be eligible for COAP if:

- The past due balance is at least \$501 resulting from a period when the children received public assistance.
- The non-custodial parent agrees to pay all past due child support owed to the family.
- The non-custodial parent is able to pay some of the past due child support owed to the government.
- All the arrears owed on all child support case(s) cannot be paid off within three years, based on the non-custodial parent's current income and assets.

## CIRCUMSTANCES THAT COULD AFFECT ELIGIBILITY:

- Not complying with a previous COAP agreement within the last two years.
- Previous denial of COAP within one year.
- Submitting more than one COAP application within one year.
- Found in contempt of court for failure to pay child support within six months prior to the date of application.
- Intentional failure to pay child support in anticipation of a compromise.
- Concealment of income, assets, or any reasonably anticipated income or assets.
- Intentionally withholding or falsifying of financial information.

**You may qualify to reduce your past due balance!**



## PAYMENT OPTIONS:

There are several things that need to be reviewed before less than a full payment can be accepted. Monthly repayment or lump sum repayment (may be required under certain circumstances).

## HOW TO APPLY?

**Contact our office and ask a child support representative if you qualify for a COAP application.** The representative will guide you through the process of applying and submitting all of the required information.

For parents needing assistance completing the COAP application, Forms Workshops are available at our office Tuesday - Thursday from 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Once our office receives a completed COAP application package, your case and financial circumstances will be reviewed. You will be notified if you qualify for a compromise of arrears.

**Applying for COAP is free!**