

## O Child or Medical Support

[For MA after 2013](#)  
[See the EPM](#)

Child or Medical support is any payment received by a participant, from any of the following:

- Directly from an absent parent.
- Directly from the Clerk of the Court.
- Directly from a private collection agency.
- From the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS).

NOTE For a listing of state web sites that provide [Child Support Payment information on-line](#).

### WARNING

Effective 07/01/03, DCSS began issuing child support income to [Benefit Capped children](#). When more than one Benefit Capped child is in the CA budgetary unit, the Benefit Capped child support income must be evenly divided among the Benefit Capped children, when they have the same absent parent.

Support payments are considered unearned income of the child for whom support is paid.

NOTE Once the child turns 18, the child is no longer a dependent child unless the [CA Student Criteria](#) or [MA Student Criteria](#) is met.

When a support amount is not specified for each child, complete the following to identify a specific amount for each child:

- Determine for which children the absent parent is paying child support. This may include a [Benefit Capped child](#).
- Divide the total amount of income equally between the number of children to determine each child's share.
- Consider each child's share of the support as unearned income.

Support income may be counted or not counted due to program and policy rules that may differ. Policies and procedures are outlined as follows:

- [COUNTABLE Support - CA or MA](#)
- [NOT COUNTABLE Support - CA or MA](#)
- [COUNTABLE Support - NA](#)
- [NOT COUNTABLE Support - NA](#)

(See [Budgeting Child Support](#) for policy and procedures regarding budgeting support payments)

**WARNING**

When a 1931 budgetary unit becomes ineligible due to receipt of Child Support, see [Four-Month Continued Coverage](#) for policy.