

D Budgeting Child Support Expenses

Determine the child support deduction for the FS approval period by using the average monthly payment the FS budgetary unit participant paid in the prior approval period.

NOTE The averaged monthly child support payment deduction must not exceed the monthly amount of the legal obligation. When the legally obligated amount includes alimony, allow only the portion identified as child support as an expense.

When monthly payments are made and the FS budgetary unit provides a record of three or more months of paid child support, complete the following:

- Average at least three months of legally obligated child support. (See Example [Budget Child Support](#))
- Budget the averaged amount as the court-ordered child support deduction. Take into account any anticipated changes in the legal obligation.
- Adjust the average accordingly during the approval period based on reported or discovered changes.
- Convert child support payments by using the appropriate conversion factor.
- When there is no history of child support payments, anticipate the verified monthly child support for the FS approval period. When child support payments were made during the prior [30 day period](#), [average the payments](#) to project the amount of the deduction.
- When child support payments have been made during the prior 30 day period, [average the payments](#) to project the amount of the deduction.