Importance of Paying Child Support From the Beginning

CALIFORNIA'S CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM:

A Resource for Parents ...





California law states that both parents are mutually responsible for the support of their child. By paying child support in a timely manner, your child's future will be more secure with a greater likelihood that he/she will succeed.

- Every child has the right to be supported by his/her parents:
 - Until the age of 18, unless he/she marries, becomes legally emancipated; or,
 - Until he/she finishes high school or reaches age 19, whichever comes first
- If you pay your support in a timely manner and do not owe past due child support:
 - You will not have to pay interest on past due child support
 - Your IRS, state tax refunds and lottery winnings may not be intercepted
 - The funds in your bank account will not be taken
 - Your driver license, business and other professional license will not be suspended.
 - The court will not force you to seek work or hold you in contempt

Although the wage garnishment (Income Withholding Order) takes effect immediately, it may take some time for the employer to process and send the first payment. To be sure past due child support and interest do not accrue, payment should be made by the parent owing support until the wage withholding goes into effect.

Impact of a Father's Involvement With their Child:¹

- 1. Child performs better in school:
 - a. Improved grades
 - b. Child is less likely to be expelled and/or repeat grades
 - c. Improved math and verbal skills
- 2. Improved emotional development
- 3. Greater level of curiosity

1"Father Involvement in Children's Education, Care and Support" National Child Care Information and Assistance Center, Administration for Children and Families (2011)



Contact your local child support agency: 1-866-901-3212, or TTY: 1-866-399-4096