

In cooperation with the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, Bureau of Child Support Services, the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office provides services for all families in DuPage County regardless of income level or need.

## To apply for child support enforcement services call

Illinois Department of  
Healthcare and Family Services

Toll free

1-800-447-4278

or go online at:

[www.childsupportillinois.com/customers/apply.html](http://www.childsupportillinois.com/customers/apply.html)

## Services Include:

- Locating an absent parent
- Establishing paternity
- Establishing support or modifying existing support orders
- Enforcing existing orders

### DuPage County State's Attorney's Office

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A Message From

## Bob Berlin

DuPage County  
State's Attorney

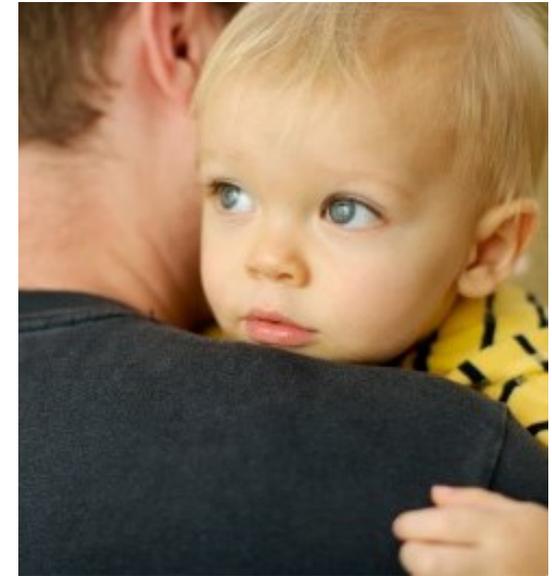
The DuPage County State's Attorney's Office is committed to utilize every resource at its disposal to assist parents in getting the support they deserve. The Child Support Program assists in the establishment of a financial support obligation either through cooperation of the parties or through litigation.

For those absent parents who willfully refuse to pay support notwithstanding their ability to pay, this office, in coordination with the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, seeks all appropriate sanctions, including drivers license suspension and jail commitment.

The DuPage County Child Support Program consistently and successfully collects millions of dollars in financial support for children each year. The Program has proven to be one of the most successful in Illinois.

The DuPage County State's  
Attorney's Office

## Child Support Program



DuPage County  
State's Attorney  
Robert B. Berlin

# **“We must do all we can to protect our most precious and valuable resource - our children.”**

**- DuPage County State’s Attorney Robert B. Berlin**

## ***What is the Child Support Program?***

The Child Support Program helps establish paternity, sets child support and obtains medical insurance coverage according to Illinois law. We also enforce child support orders for the benefit of children in and outside of DuPage County.

## ***Who is eligible for this program?***

All families with children who are entitled to and in need of financial support are eligible for Child Support Services, whether or not they receive benefits from the State.

## ***Where do I apply?***

You apply for Child Support Services by calling the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services at: 1-800-447-4278 or online at [www.childsupportillinois.com/customers/apply.htm](http://www.childsupportillinois.com/customers/apply.htm)

## ***Is there a fee?***

The fee for Child Support Enforcement Services can range from no fee to \$25 maximum, depending upon the income of the custodial parent. But in most cases there is no fee.

## ***I never married the father of the child, can you help me?***

Yes. Child support services are available to married, divorced and never married people. Our services include establishing legal paternity for any child born outside of marriage.

## ***I don't know where the other parent resides, can you help me?***

The State’s Attorney’s Office in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services will use all available federal, state and local resources in its attempt to locate an absent parent.

## ***The absent parent refuses to pay. Can anything be done?***

If an absent parent is located and refuses to pay, the State’s Attorney’s Office in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services can pursue certain legal remedies, including:

- Income withholding
- Contempt proceedings, including jail sentences

HFS can also pursue:

- Driver’s License suspension
- Property liens
- Tax refund interception
- Non-wage garnishment

## ***What if there is no existing support order?***

The State’s Attorney’s Office can take appropriate action to obtain a support order for a minor child of parties who were never married or who are married or separated, and parties who are divorced.

## ***What if I need help with other issues such as custody, visitation or property settlement?***

Issues including custody, visitation and expenses like day care must be handled either by yourself or through a private attorney. ***The State’s Attorney’s Office CANNOT assist in these matters.*** If you do not have an attorney, contact your local Bar Association referral service. The DuPage County Bar Association Referral Service can be reached at (630) 653-9109.

## ***What are my responsibilities?***

You must:

- \* Be a resident of the State of Illinois and the legal custodian of the child(ren) in need of support.
- \* Authorize the Program to act on your behalf.
- \* Assist by producing any information you may have which might be of use, such as a home address, or the known place of employment of the absent parent.
- \* Provide all necessary and pertinent information and appear for interviews and court appearances as necessary.

## ***We have an agreement, what is our next step?***

If you have an agreement or are close to an agreement and wish to have it entered by the Court, contact the State’s Attorney’s Office’s Agreed Support and Parenting Time Program (ASAP) at (630)-407-8005 for more information.

## **Child Support by the numbers**

Child support is a very important source of income for custodial parents and their children.

### ***Nationally***

- There are currently more than 15 million active child support cases.
- In 2014, more than \$28 billion child support payments were collected.
- More than 16 million children are affected by child support payments.

### ***In Illinois***

- There are currently more than 480,000 active child support cases.
- In 2014, more than \$805 million child support payments were collected.
- More than 500,000 children are affected by child support payments.