

Australia and New Zealand have a child support agreement.

This means that:

- custodians living in Australia can apply to the Australian authorities to receive child support, and
- New Zealand Inland Revenue is required to collect payments from the parent living here if the Australian agency requests it.

Please read this factsheet if you are either an:

- Australian custodian and the paying parent lives in New Zealand, or
- Australian paying parent who lives in New Zealand.

How is my child support worked out?

Child support is worked out in one of the following ways:

- by an Australian administrative assessment
- from an Australian court order
- from a voluntary agreement.

What is an Australian administrative assessment?

This is the most common form of assessment. It uses a formula based on the paying parent's:

- previous taxable income
- personal circumstances
- children they are liable for.

What about court orders?

We administer Australian court orders if they are registered in New Zealand. If we take over administering your order, we will send you a notice advising how much you are required to pay or are entitled to receive.

Note

If you think the amount of the order is incorrect, you will need to apply to have the order varied or discharged. You may have to do this through the Australian court so please speak to us first.

What about voluntary agreements?

If you have made an agreement about the amount of child support to be paid, we can administer it. However, you need to register it with the Australian Child Support Agency first.

Who collects child support if the paying parent lives in New Zealand?

Inland Revenue has a special unit dedicated to collecting Australian child support when the paying parent lives in New Zealand. The New Zealand Central Authority is located in Hamilton and is responsible for collecting child support payments if the case has been referred to us by the Australian Central Authority. We send the payments to the Australian Central Authority who pass the child support on to the custodian.

What is the Australian Central Authority responsible for?

The Australian Central Authority is responsible for advising the paying parent and the New Zealand Central Authority about details of their current child support and arrears.

For more help

For questions about collection or enforcement, please call 0800 221 221, extension 41328 between 8 am and 8 pm on weekdays or between 9 am and 1 pm on Saturdays.

For questions about your assessment or arrears, please contact the Australian Central Authority at the following address:

Child Support Agency
GPO Box 9815
Hobart 7001
Tasmania
Australia

Freephone 0800 440 953
Fax 0061 3 6216 0899

For further copies of this factsheet or any of our forms:

- Visit our website www.ird.govt.nz/childsupport/
- Phone INFOexpress (New Zealand only) on 0800 257 773 any day between 6 am and 12 midnight. Please ensure you have your IRD number and the form or booklet number ready before you call.