

MEDICAL ENFORCEMENT

There are two (2) types of Medical Support Enforcement:

- 1. Insurance Enforcement**
- 2. Uninsured Medical Enforcement**

Insurance Enforcement

Every court order indicates that the parties are responsible to maintain health care coverage for the benefit of their child(ren) {as defined by MCL 552.602(o)} which includes payment(s) for hospital, dental, optical, and other health-care expenses when that coverage is available at a reasonable cost, including coverage available as a benefit of employment or under an individual policy not to exceed 5% or 6% of the parent's gross income.

This enforcement occurs when the National Medical Notice is sent to the party's employer with instructions of the requirement necessary to provide health care coverage for the child(ren) identified in the notice.

Uninsured Medical Expenses

Every support order entered will address the parties' "ordinary medical" expense. "Ordinary medical" expenses are co-payments, deductibles and/or uninsured medical-related costs for the child(ren) in your case. These expenses would include but are not limited to prescriptions, doctor/dental visits, optical expenses, orthodontia expenses, and other related care, provided or prescribed by health care professionals for your children. Routine remedial care costs for child(ren) (over the counter supplies such as: first aid supplies, cough syrup, vitamins band aides, ointments etc.) do not qualify as ordinary medical expenses.

The annual "ordinary medical" amount for each child is outlined in your Uniform Support Order. The payer of support is ordered to pay their apportioned amount each month; therefore, the recipient of support must account for the monthly "ordinary medical" expenses received (total for all children) when determining if additional amounts are required from the payer of support.

When the "ordinary medical" expense exceeds the annual amount, a party may seek assistance through the Chippewa County Friend of the Court for enforcement; however, they must provide proof that the annual amount has been met and additional money has been paid by the recipient of support toward additional medical expenses.

**PLEASE FOLLOW THE ATTACHED INSTRUCTIONS IF REQUESTING ASSISTANCE TO ENFORCE
ADDITIONAL "ORDINARY HEALTH" EXPENSES ONCE THE ANNUAL AMOUNT HAS BEEN EXHAUSTED:**

GUIDE FOR COLLECTION OF UNINSURED HEALTH CARE EXPENSES

**Form FOC 13 – Request for Health Care Expense Payment
Must be completed in its entirety.**

Make additional copies:

Copy for your records

Copy to the Friend of the Court Office should you seek enforcement action if necessary, Under MCL 552.511a, the obligor will have 28 days to respond to your request by either paying the amount or deny the request. If the obligor does not respond to your request within the allotted time frame (28 days) and wish to seek enforcement through the Chippewa County Friend of the Court, you must complete FOC 13a.

Form FOC 13a – Complaint for Enforcement of Health Care Expense Payment

You must complete the section titled COMPLAINT

Please take form FOC 13 and 13a to the Chippewa County Friend of the Court Office for enforcement along with all supporting documents regarding the outstanding medical expenses. To ensure that the amount requested has not been paid by your insurance carrier, it is essential that you provide a statement of benefits regarding all outstanding medical expenses in which you are seeking and/or an outstanding medical expense from the treating physician to assist this office in ensuring that the amount seeking is accurate.

The Friend of the Court will mail your complaint to the obligor which will have 21 days to respond either in a written objection or payment of the amount requested.

If an objection is received, a hearing will be scheduled with notice to the parties.

If no response is received, the Friend of the Court will take the appropriate measures to enforce the medical expense.

