



The Division of Child Support Services believes:

- Children are your first priority
- Children need both parents

BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING IN THE SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATION PROCESS:

- Families can receive their first child support payments faster;
- Parents avoid going to court;
- Parents receive help solving parental conflict;
- Parents improve communication with each other;
- Parents receive information about other community services that may be available to them



The Settlement Negotiation Process is operated by the Division of Child Support Services, a part of the Georgia Department of Human Services.



Division of Child Support Services

2 Peachtree Street
20th Floor
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: **1-877-423-4746**
Fax: (404) 657-3326
www.ocse.dhr.georgia.gov

The impact of Parental conflict on children is high



Working out conflict for your children is priceless!



Settlement Negotiation

Do you need help resolving the financial or medical support issues of child support with the custodial or non-custodial parent?

The Division of Child Support Services' (DCSS) Settlement Negotiation Process can help.

Who can get help?

If you have a **new** child support case and can answer **yes** to each of the following statements, then you may be eligible for this process.

- Both parents are concerned about the welfare of their child(ren);
- Both parents are interested and willing to work together;
- There is **no** history of domestic violence in the parents' relationship.

How can I apply?

Contact your local Child Support office to see if you qualify.

To find the location of a, office nearest you, visit the DCSS Website at:

<https://services.georgia.gov/dhr/cspp/do/Logon>, then select **Office Finder**.



How much does the process cost?

The process is free to all participants.

Who will conduct the negotiations?

DCSS staff is trained to work with parents to resolve conflicts related to child support.

Where do the sessions take place?

The sessions will be held at the DCSS office handling your case.



How long do the sessions last?

Settlement negotiation sessions are expected to last 1-2 hours.

What issues does the process focus on?

Settlement negotiations work to resolve conflicts with financial and medical support issues related to child support.

These may include:

- The importance of regular payments;
- The value of both parents being emotionally and financially involved with their child(ren);
- The calculation of child support payments as required by the Georgia Child Support Guidelines;
- Income verification;
- Child care costs;
- Special needs of the child(ren);
- Referral to community services;
- Child Access and Visitation

Although the DCSS will attempt to mediate issues such as visitation, our office has no binding legal authority to set visitation schedules.

