



**53<sup>rd</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT  
FAMILY DIVISION  
OFFICE OF THE FRIEND OF THE COURT**



Cheboygan County Office  
PO Box 70, Room 210  
Cheboygan, MI 49721  
(231) 627-8825 Main Line  
(231) 627-8417 FAX  
(800) 649-3777 TDD

KEVIN W. WELLER  
Friend of the Court

Presque Isle County Office  
PO Box 192  
Rogers City, MI 49779  
(989) 734-4312 Main Line  
(989) 734-4995 FAX  
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## Information Regarding Uninsured Medical Expenses

The 2004 Michigan Child Support Formula Manual creates a new way to help parents pay for their child(ren)'s health care expenses. Each child support order issued or modified after October 1, 2004 will include an additional amount for "ordinary health care expenses." A person who pays support will pay an additional amount each month to cover a portion of the child(ren)'s ordinary health care expenses. This new process will help custodial parents pay out-of-pocket health care expenses as they incur them.

### ORDINARY HEALTH CARE EXPENSES

Ordinary health care expenses include co-payments, deductibles and other uninsured health care costs. The base support already covers remedial care items such as band aids and non-prescription medications, so those expenses are not included in this category. The court order specifies an amount for ordinary health care expenses per child.

### EXTRAORDINARY HEALTH CARE EXPENSES

For the custodial parent, health care expenses incurred on behalf of the child(ren) above the ordinary health care amount specified in the order are called Extraordinary Health Care Expenses. For the noncustodial parent, ANY health care expense incurred on behalf of the child(ren) is considered an extraordinary health care expense. The support order will indicate the percentage each parent must pay for extraordinary health care expenses.

The custodial parent should maintain an annual record of qualified ordinary health care expenses in case there are extraordinary health care expenses at some point in the calendar year. A Health Care Expense Log is available from the Friend of the Court for this purpose. Only one annual record needs to be maintained by the custodial parent regardless of the number of children on the case; ordinary medical expenses do not need to be documented on a separate expense log for each child.

**To obtain a copy of your latest support order, please contact the County Clerk's office at 989-734-3288. Please contact the Friend of the Court office with any questions at 989-734-4312.**

***\*Anytime a bill is submitted for orthodontics/braces, you must attach copies of the actual contract that shows the total amount due. The contract should clearly state the expected insurance payment and the monthly payments you have arranged with the provider as well as any initial payment that is due immediately.***



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**Submission of Medical Bills for Reimbursement if you are the Custodial Parent**

1) Please refer to your latest support order as to what the annual ordinary medical amount is that **you must first pay out of pocket. You may not seek reimbursement from the other party until you have reached that amount.** Your order should state \$289, \$345 or \$357 per child, per year, and have percentages that the Plaintiff and Defendant are responsible for. If the uninsured medical language is missing this process should be stopped immediately. Track the medical expenses your child(ren) has/have incurred, as you will need to supply the proof of payment of the annual ordinary medical amount. If you have further questions, please contact the Friend of the Court office.

***If you need a copy of your latest support order, you must contact the County Clerk's office @ 989-734-3288. There may be a fee for this service.***

2) Send the noncustodial parent by Certified Mail &/ Return Receipt (this shows there was proof of mailing to the other party):

- a. Copy of the filled out Request for Payment form (FOC 13)
- b. Copy of the proof that the yearly ordinary medical amount has been paid out of pocket
- c. Copies of the Health Care Expense Log, medical bills and other accompanying documentation
- d. Copy of your latest support order

*\*Be sure to keep a copy of the proof of mailing to the other parent, as you will need it if the Friend of the Court must start the enforcement process.*

If you and the other party come to an agreement on a payment plan, please submit the payment plan in writing to the Friend of the Court office. Both parties' signatures and the date must accompany the agreement. If an agreement is reached, there is no need for the Friend of the Court to start the enforcement process. If, after 28 days, an agreement is not reached, please continue with the instructions.

3) **If after 28 days payment arrangements have not been made**, send the following to the Friend of the Court office so we may start the enforcement process:

- a. 2 copies of the proof of mailing
- b. 2 copies of the proof of payment of the annual ordinary medical amount
- c. 2 copies of the Request for Payment (FOC 13)
- d. 2 copies of the Complaint (FOC 13a)
- e. 2 copies of the Health Care Expense Log
- f. 2 copies of all medical bills, Explanation of Benefits, receipts and other supporting documentation
- g. 2 copies of your latest support order

The noncustodial parent will be given **21 days** to respond.

- a. If the obligor submits the payment to the Friend of the Court office, we will make a copy of the check/money order and forward the payment on to you.
- b. If the obligor submits the payment directly to you, we ask that you make a copy of the check/money order so we have proof of payment on file.
- c. If there is no response from the obligor and the 21 day waiting period has passed, the medical expense amount will be added the support obligation.
- d. If the obligor objects to the medical expense(s) within the 21 day waiting period, it will be set for a hearing. **Both parties** will be required to attend this hearing.



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**Submission of Medical Bills for Reimbursement if you are the Non-Custodial Parent**

Please refer to your latest support order as to what the Plaintiff's and Defendant's percentages are for uninsured health care expenses. If this language is missing this process should be stopped immediately.

- 1) Send the custodial parent by Certified Mail &/ Return Receipt (This shows there was proof of mailing to the other party):
  - a. Copy of the filled out Request for Payment form (FOC 13)
  - b. Copies of the Health Care Expense Log, medical bills and other accompanying documentation
  - c. Copy of your latest support order

***If you need a copy of your latest support order, you must contact the County Clerk's office @ 989-734-3288. There may be a fee for this service.***

*\*Be sure to keep a copy of the proof of mailing to the other parent, as you will need it if the Friend of the Court must start the enforcement process.*

If you and the other party come to an agreement on a payment plan, please submit the payment plan in writing to the Friend of the Court office. Both parties' signatures and the date must accompany the agreement. If an agreement is reached, there is no need for the Friend of the Court to start the enforcement process. If, after 28 days, an agreement is not reached, please continue with the instructions.

- 2) **If, after 28 days, payment arrangements have not been made,** send the following to the Friend of the Court office so we may start the enforcement process:
  - a. 2 copies of the proof of mailing
  - b. 2 copies of the Request for Payment (FOC 13)
  - c. 2 copies of the Complaint (FOC 13a)
  - d. 2 copies of the Health Care Expense Log
  - e. 2 copies of all medical bills, Explanation of Benefits, receipts and other supporting documentation
  - f. 2 copies of your latest support order

The custodial parent will be given **21 days** to respond.

- a. If the custodial parent submits the payment to the Friend of the Court office, we will make a copy of the check/money order and forward the payment on to you.
- b. If the custodial parent submits the payment directly to you, we ask that you make a copy of the check/money order so we have proof of payment on file.
- c. If there is no response from the custodial parent and the 21 days have passed, the custodial parent will have a medical reimbursement account set up through our office.
- d. If the custodial parent contests the medical expense(s) within the 21 day waiting period, it will be set for a hearing. **Both parties will be required to attend this hearing.**