

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
OFFICE OF THE FAMILY LAW FACILITATOR – ANACAPA DIVISION**

ESTABLISHING OR MODIFYING CHILD SUPPORT

Due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus, the Office of the Family Law Facilitator is physically closed. All classes and one-on-one clinics are canceled until further notice. In the meantime, the Facilitator is available for remote consultation.

If you want to establish or modify your child support, please do the following:

- **STEP ONE:** Educate yourself using the California Court’s excellent self-help website: <http://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-support.htm> . Read this article to have a basic understanding of child support in California.

- **STEP TWO:** Do you **have an existing court case** about you, the other parent and the child(ren) in question?
 - **A. If you DO NOT have a court case yet:**
 - **Do you want the help of the Dept. of Child Support Services (DCSS)?** Go to <https://childsupport.ca.gov/overview/> to understand how they can help you. You may open a case through DCSS by going to <https://childsupport.ca.gov/apply-for-child-support/> . You can also call 805.882.4660 to receive the help of the Family Law Facilitator’s Office in opening a case with DCSS.

OR

 - **Open your own case:** Contact the Family Law Facilitator to understand your options. Call 805.882.4660 to speak to the receptionist and to schedule an appointment with the Family Law Facilitator.

- **B. If you already HAVE A COURT CASE, then proceed to STEP THREE:**

If you already have a family law case:

- **STEP THREE:**
 - A. Get your forms:** <https://www.courts.ca.gov/formsrules.htm>
You can find the legal forms you need here—all free. You can fill them out, save them, and print them as you wish. Call 805.882.4660 if you want to schedule an appointment with the Family Law Facilitator to help you with the completion of the forms.

 - B. Use a program if you want to help you complete the forms yourself:**
<https://share.vidyard.com/watch/yNziXLHmyWo9VRwSr4pXAx?> Watch the video on how to prepare legal forms online using either Law Help Interactive or Guide and File programs

 - C. Complete your forms. You may use one of the following programs:**
 - a. **Law Help Interactive:** <https://sharpcourts.org/divorce-legal-separation/>

- b. **Guide and File:** <https://california.tylerhost.net/SRL>
 - c. **SAVE YOUR WORK BY CREATING AN ACCOUNT AND STORING YOUR DOCUMENTS!**
- D. Review your documents:** If you want, you may **have your documents reviewed** by the Family Law Facilitator prior to your filing the documents with the court. Services are only for self-represented litigants and are free. Send your documents to SBFLF@sbcourts.org for remote review. You may also ask to schedule a telephone appointment with the Family Law Facilitator at 805.882.4660. If no one answers, please leave a message, and we will return your call as soon as we are able.
- E. File your documents** through the Clerk's Office of the court. The Clerk's Office is at the present time physically closed. Please go to www.sbcourts.org for detailed information on electronic filing through eFile CA.
- a. **Pay the appropriate filing fee.** See the current fee schedule:
<https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/StatewideCivilFeeSchedule-20200101.pdf>
For more information, call the Family Law Facilitator's Office at 805.882.4660.