

CHILD MAINTENANCE

NEED TO KNOW INFO



WHO CAN CLAIM MAINTENANCE?

The parent/guardian who has primary care of the child/children can claim maintenance from the other parent. Maintenance may also be claimed from the biological grandparents.

HOW DO I CLAIM FOR MAINTENANCE?

You may approach your nearest Magistrates Court and lodge a maintenance claim. You will be required to produce your financial and personal information, and that of the other parent, as well as a list of the child/children's expenses. Once all the required documents have been submitted the maintenance officer will assist with the application.



WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I MAKE THE APPLICATION



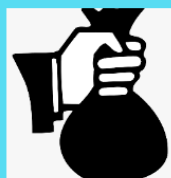
The maintenance officer will issue a subpoena calling upon the parties to meet for the purposes of mediation. If the parties do not reach agreement the matter will be sent before a Magistrate to decide.

CAN I WITHHOLD ACCESS FROM A PARENT THAT FAILS TO PAY MAINTENANCE?

No, you cannot. The parent who is claiming maintenance may not stop the other parent from seeing the child/children.



WHAT HAPPENS IF A PERSON DOES NOT PAY MAINTENANCE?



You can go back to court and see the maintenance officer. They will open up a case for arrears maintenance