

# ***MEDICAL SUPPORT ORDERS***



***Wayne County Prosecutor's  
Office***

***Child Support Division***

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## ***What is a medical support order?***

***A medical support order is a court order for parents to provide medical insurance coverage for their children and to pay medical bills not covered by Medicaid or any other form of insurance.***

## ***What if I don't have medical insurance through my employer?***

***A medical support order only requires a parent to provide medical insurance for his or her child if it is available through his or her employer at a reasonable cost. If a parent's employer does not provide medical insurance for its employees, the parent does not have access to insurance for his or her child.***

## ***What if I can't afford to pay for medical insurance through my employer?***

***A medical support order only requires a parent to provide medical insurance for his or her child if it is at a reasonable cost. The law states that insurance premiums are reasonable only if they are not greater than 5% of a parent's gross income.***

## ***Do I have to get a medical support order?***

***If your child receives Medicaid, or has received Medicaid in the past, federal law requires that the Child Support Division obtain a medical support order in your case. You do not have to have a child support order except in certain circumstances, but all cases must have a medical support order.***

**Do I have to take my child off Medicaid?**

*No. Even if you have no access to private medical insurance, you are not required to take your child off Medicaid. If you do have private medical insurance through your employer, your child still can receive Medicaid as secondary coverage so long as your child is eligible for Medicaid coverage.*

**What happens if I do not cooperate with the Child Support Division in getting a medical support order?**

*If you do not cooperate in getting a medical support order, the Child Support Division can request that the Division of Family Resources (DFR) sanction or take away your Medicaid benefits. However, the DFR will never sanction or take away your child's Medicaid benefits, even if you do not*

*cooperate with the Child Support Division.*

*If you don't cooperate in getting medical support order, the Child Support Division will still proceed to file a medical support petition against you and your child's other parent, with or without your cooperation.*

**Does a medical support order require that I get dental and vision coverage for my child?**

*The primary concern of a medical support order is to provide medical insurance coverage for the child if it is available. However, if the dental and vision coverage is available at a reasonable cost, your medical support order may require you to get it.*

**How does the court decide which parent is responsible for medical expenses not covered by insurance or Medicaid?**

*The child support worksheet calculates the division of uninsured medical expenses between the parents. Normally, the custodial parent must pay a certain amount of uninsured expenses, with any other expenses beyond that amount being divided in some manner between the two parents.*

**Will it cost me anything to get a medical support order?**

*There is no charge for services through the Child Support Division.*