



Celebrating Child Support Awareness Month

New York State Governor Kathy Hochul has [officially proclaimed](#) August as Child Support Awareness Month in New York.

As part of a nationwide celebration of the child support program, Hochul's proclamation highlights the fiftieth anniversary of its founding in 1975. Since that time, child support has become "an essential service that upholds our state's core values by promoting responsible parental support and strengthening families."

The [federal Office of Child Support Services](#) strikes a similar note with its celebration of both the anniversary and the month set aside to recognize the program. "Since 1975, the program has collected more than \$786 billion in child support payments, helping to reduce child poverty, strengthen family economic independence, and support better social and health outcomes."



How does child support work?

Child Support is payments that one parent makes to the child's other parent or legal guardian to help with the costs of raising the child. Parents and guardians can receive services from their local child support office.

An overview of child support enforcement developed by the federal Office of Child Support Services, as part of its celebration of Child Support Awareness Month and the program's fiftieth anniversary.

As part of their efforts, the federal office has also produced several useful handouts for the public, including a one-page overview of [how the program works](#) and a [timeline](#) of major changes in the program between 1975 and today. At the New York City Office of Child Support Services (OCSS), we continue to build on the promise of the program as we look forward to its next 50 years.

Our goal is to eliminate barriers that keep some noncustodial parents from paying their child support and engaging with their child. So they can develop the kind of "strong support systems" mentioned in Governor Hochul's proclamation, which "are key to preventing children from engaging in harmful behaviors and encouraging their success in school and adulthood."

Contact OCSS

Email us at dcse.cseweb@dfa.state.ny.us

Announcing Career Track Employment Services for Noncustodial Parents with a Child Support Case

OCSS, in partnership with the New York City Department of Social Services (DSS) Career Services and City University of New York (CUNY), is pleased to introduce a new City program for noncustodial parents who have a child support case: Career Track. Our [new employment program](#) is designed to help noncustodial parents build the necessary skills needed to find and keep work in one of several growing industries. I

Services to Help Find and Keep a Job

Career Track offers noncustodial parents with an OCSS case a full range of services to help them find and keep a job, including:

- One-on-one career coaching
- Job search support
- Resume help and interview prep
- MetroCards to help parents get to interviews or work
- Child support navigation services

Training to Build Skills for In-demand Industries

In addition to employment services, Career Track can also connect the parent with training programs in growing industries, such as:

- Construction
- Information technology (IT) support and cybersecurity
- Transportation
- Healthcare support and operations
- Green and clean HVAC

To learn more, email careertrack@hra.nyc.gov. Include your name, phone number, and the best time for a Career Navigator to contact you.

Upcoming Free Webinars

Join us on September 9 for a free webinar titled "Why Am I Not Receiving My Child Support Payment?." On September 16, we will host "Child Support: Debt-Reduction Options for NCPs." All sessions are held virtually on Tuesdays, from 10–11:00 a.m., with additional time for questions from attendees. To register visit www.nyc.gov/site/hra/help/ocss-cbos.page and scroll down to "Upcoming Presentations." Recorded presentations are available on [YouTube](#).