

REDUCTION OF PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED ARREARS



What Is Reduction of Permanently Assigned Arrears (ROPAA)?

ROPAA, formerly known as Waiver and Compromise, is a program that Child Support Enforcement Agencies (CSEA) may use to reduce or forgive past due child support owed to the State of Ohio. **Past due support owed to the parent/caretaker cannot be included in this program.**



Parents ordered to pay support can become overwhelmed by the amount of past due support they owe and feel there is no chance for success in paying off this debt. This program can provide parents an opportunity to have a portion of the past due support reduced.

The past support can be reduced through a waiver or a compromise process.

What Is The Difference Between A Waiver And A Compromise?

When a parent, ordered to pay support, has the ability to make regular support payments, a **compromise** may be used to **reduce** the amount of the past due support owed to the State of Ohio. Payments are required to qualify for a compromise.

When a parent, has an order to pay child support, but also has a documented inability to make his/her support payments, a **waiver** may be used to **eliminate** past due support owed to the State of Ohio. Payments are not required to qualify for a waiver.

Does My Case Qualify For The ROPAA Program?

Counties are **not** required to offer ROPAA. Contact your local CSEA to see if they offer ROPAA and if you qualify.

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How Do I Request ROPPA?

If you are ordered to pay support and would like to make a request for reduction of permanently assigned arrears contact your local CSEA. The agency will send you an affidavit or packet to complete and return with supporting documentation.

What Happens Once I Submit My Request For ROPAA?

The CSEA will review your request and provide you with the results. If the requested amount is **under** \$5,000, your local CSEA has the authority to approve the request. If the requested amount is **over** \$5,000, your request will be submitted to the State Office of Child Support for review. You will receive



written notification if your request is approved or denied. If your request is denied, the decision is final and you do not have appeal rights. If your request is approved a Court or Administrative Order will be issued to adjust the past due support owed on your case.

Is ROPAA Final?

Yes, unless you fail to comply with the terms and conditions in the Agreed Entry; acted with intent to defraud the CSEA by furnishing false information or concealed assets; or there is a mutual mistake of material fact. If any of these situations occur, the Agreed Entry may be voided and the past due support may be added back to your case.