

# Did you know?

Revised  
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## MAKING CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS

The Family Maintenance Enforcement Program (FMEP) is the agency that enforces and collects child support payments.

### What can I do if I am not able to pay the monthly payments?

If you cannot make the monthly payments, then you need to go to court and apply to lower the payments. The FMEP cannot and will not lower the payments for you. The basic rule to keep in mind is that, in order to change a support order, there must be a change in your financial circumstances since the order was made.

For more information on **FMEP**, you can contact them at the automated infoline numbers:

- In the Lower Mainland:  
**604-775-0796**
- In Greater Victoria:  
**250-356-5995**
- Elsewhere in BC:  
**1-800-668-FMEP (3637)**

### What happens if I do not pay?

If you do not pay and are in arrears, then FMEP will take enforcement action. The laws under which they operate are powerful. The actions they take can vary:

- 1) Notice of attachment. This legal document requires you to pay. This means that there is a garnishment order, which can include your paycheque, bank accounts, and RRSPs.
- 2) A notice of attachment to the federal government can be made for income tax and GST returns, and employment insurance (EI) benefits. This means that the amount will be deducted from your cheque.
- 3) Land Registration. They will file the child support order against your property. If there are arrears at the time you sell, they will have to be paid.
- 4) There can be credit bureau consequences, Driver's License withholding and passport denial.