



CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM

Paternity

The Florida Department of Revenue Child Support Program offers multiple services to many families including paternity establishment, which is the process of identifying the legal father of a child.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO ESTABLISH PATERNITY?

Establishing paternity gives rights, benefits and privileges to the father, mother and child by providing:

- Additional information about family medical history
- Health and life insurance, if available
- Social Security or veteran's benefits, military allowances and inheritances
- The opportunity for the father's name to be listed on the birth certificate

Paternity gives both parents the legal right to establish a child support order and establish a court order for shared time with the child.

HOW DO WE DETERMINE PATERNITY IN FLORIDA?

There are many ways to establish paternity:

- AT BIRTH
- BY MARRIAGE
- WITH AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT
SIGNED BY BOTH PARENTS IN A CHILD SUPPORT OFFICE
- WITH A LEGAL ORDER
REQUIRES GENETIC TESTING

Learn more about the services of the Florida Department of Revenue Child Support Program and the process for paternity establishment at:

floridarevenue.com/childsupport



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Genetic Testing

Genetic testing, or DNA testing, identifies a child's biological father. The Child Support Program administers genetic testing as a part of its services.

WHEN WILL THE RESULTS BE READY?



Once completed, test results are mailed approximately 2 weeks after the testing takes place. Test results are not available by phone.

WHAT DO THE RESULTS MEAN?

The results show if the person tested is the biological father.

99% =
or higher
BIOLOGICAL FATHER

0%* =
NOT THE BIOLOGICAL FATHER

*0% result will close the case with the alleged father. We will contact the mother to schedule an appointment.

ONCE A FATHER IS IDENTIFIED, WHAT'S NEXT?

- A final order of paternity is issued.
- The child's birth certificate is updated with the father's name.



Learn more about the services of the Florida Department of Revenue Child Support Program and the process for genetic testing at:

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