

## ***Child Support Services***

### **What is Child Support Services (CSS)?**

CSS helps single parents and parents of blended families negotiate child support agreements or obtain court orders.

### **How can it make a difference for you?**

CSS is about making sure your children get the resources they deserve – now and for the future. The CSS program is based on the principle that children have the right to be financially supported by both parents to the best of their ability. Having a child support agreement or order can provide a greater sense of financial security for you and your children. A child support agreement continues until your child is at least 18 years of age.

### **What do you need to do access this service?**

Fill out the Child Support Schedule (Schedule 7) with your student funding application or at any time during the year. When you receive an invitation letter for CSS, call to make an appointment and find out how we can help you.

### **How will the CSS worker help you?**

A worker will meet with you to discuss the best way for you to get child support. The CSS worker will:

- Review your current situation (e.g. number of children, existing court documents or payments of child support)
- Discuss any concerns you have about pursuing child support
- Contact the other parent on your behalf
- Identify the amount of child support to be paid by the other parent

## ***Full-Time and Non-EI Learners***

- Negotiate child support with the other parent or go to court to obtain an order
- Register an agreement or court order with the Maintenance Enforcement Program

### **What happens to your Learner Income Support benefits if you receive child support?**

You will need to report the amount to the Learner Income Support Centre through a Change in Circumstances form. When you receive child support income it is deducted from your Learner Income Support benefits.

### **If it is deducted from my Learner Income Support, then why should I bother with Child Support Services?**

Even though child support is deducted from your Learner Income Support, the total amount of money you receive will stay the same. In addition, any child support will continue to go to you long after you finish your training – until your child is at least 18 years of age. Child support income is also tax-free.

### **For More Information:**

#### **Call:**

780-415-6400 in Edmonton  
403-297-6060 in Calgary  
310-0000 toll free and ask for the Child Support Services Office nearest you.