Passport Release Program

California's Child Support Program: A Resource for Parents

Federal law requires that the U.S. Department of State refuse to issue a passport or renew a passport for any person owing child support arrears in excess of $2,500.

- **Criteria for Passport Release:**

  Parent Paying Support (PPS) who have been entered into the passport denial program can get their passports released:

  - When the past-due child support balance is paid **in full.**
  - If the passport was denied due to mistaken identity.
  - If there is a life-threatening illness or death of a member of the Parent Paying Support's (PPS) immediate family who resides outside of the United States. **In this circumstance, the passport is conditionally released for a single trip.**

- **To Obtain a Passport Release:**
  Contact your Local Child Support Agency (LCSA). Once you have paid the past-due child support balance in full or provided proof of a circumstance (outlined above), the LCSA will submit the information to the State Department of Child Support Services. The final approval is made by the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement and the U.S. Department of State.

The Office of Child Support Enforcement will notify you in writing of the outcome of your passport release. Once you have paid your account in full, you can expect to get your passport released in approximately 30 days.

For more information, contact your local child support office: 1 (866) 901-3212 **or TTY:** 1 (866) 399-4096
https://childsupport.ca.gov/

Child Support Directors Association
A Coalition of Experts Collecting Billions for California's Children

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