Family Law Toolkit: Spousal Maintenance, Child Support, and Calculations

Family Law Toolkit: Spousal Maintenance, Child Support, and Calculations

Presented by the ISBA Family Law Section

1.25 hours MCLE credit

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Program Coordinator: Pamela J. Kuzniar, Haid and Teich LLP, Chicago

Program Moderators:

Hon. Arnold F. Blockman (ret.), University of Illinois College of Law, Champaign *Pamela J. Kuzniar*, Haid and Teich LLP, Chicago

This panel presentation explores the statutory authority for an initial spousal maintenance award and relevant statutory provisions for the modification of the maintenance, how to determine child support calculations, the initial guidelines for maintenance calculations (and what you need to support these calculations), how unemployment and underemployment can impact support; the factors that can warrant a deviation from these guidelines, and much more. *Jessica Patchik, DuPage County State's Attorney's Office, Wheaton Prof. Stephanie L. Tang, Baylor Law School, Texas*

*Originally presented as part of the Family Law Toolkit. Find more sessions in this series in the ISBA On-Demand CLE catalog.

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| Prof. Stephanie L. Tang | |

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TAB 1



















Clarification of "Net Income" under 750 ILCS 5/505 "Net Income" includes maintenance not includable in the gross taxable income of the payee for federal income tax purposes under a court order in the pending proceedings or any other proceedings and shall be included in the payee's net income for purposes of calculating the parent's child support obligation.

Duration Formula: The Multipliers

Multiply the length of the marriage at the time the action was commenced by whichever of the following factors applies: less than 5 years (.20); 5 years or more but less than 6 years (.24); 6 years or more but less than 7 years (.28); 7 years or more but less than 8 years (.32); 8 years or more but less than 9 years (.36); 9 years or more but less than 10 years (.40); 10 years or more but less than 11 years (.44); 11 years or more but less than 12 years (.48); 12 years or more but less than 13 years (.52); 13 years or more but less than 14 years (.56); 14 years or more but less than 15 years (.60); 15 years or more but less than 16 years (.64); 16 years or more but less than 17 years (.68); 17 years or more but less than 18 years (.72); 18 years or more but less than 19 years (.76); 19 years or more but less than 20 years (.80). For a marriage of 20 or more years, the court, in its discretion, shall order maintenance for a period equal to the length of the marriage or for an indefinite term.

















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- A court has discretion when the combined adjusted net income of the parties exceeds the highest level of the schedule of basic child support obligation, except that the Basic Child Support Obligation shall **not** be less than the stated amount for the highest level of combined net income.
- The highest level in the Basic Child Support Obligation Schedule is a combined net income of \$30,000 per month.
- Courts can still deviate, and the upper end of the table is **not a cap** on child support.





























Temporary Child Support

- Temporary Child Support may be determined in a summary hearing.
- Eligible party can opt in to the individualized method, the tax deductions and credits shall be determined by the court on the basis of information contained in one or both parties' financial statements, Financial Affidavits, and relevant supporting documents pursuant to SCR or local rules.











| Files & Settings Client Info | o Analysis & Negotiation Forms & Reports Analysis & Negotiation Forms & Reports |
|--|--|
| Ch Supt & Maint. Support/Maint Data | Worksheet for Federal and State Taxes |
| | Automatically set parties' federal tax calculation options on line 1 below to maximize child support? Automatically set parties' federal tax calculation options on line 1 below to minimize child support? |
| Assets & Liabilities Pension Plans | 1. How should we calculate taxes for the guideline (**) Use anticipated actual taxes for 2017 Use anticipated actual taxes for 2017 Or, use state Gross-to-Net table? Martin's income is too high to use Gross-to-Net conversion table. |
| | Actual Taxes: 2. Federal income tax, per month (<u>ViewEdit Taxes</u>) 2.727 8.029 3. State income tax, per month 517 1.099 4. Social security taxes, FICA, per month 155 657 5. Stell-Enrojionyment tax, per month 0 0 6. Medicace, per month 36 829 7. Mandatory retenent, per month 0 0 8. Total actual taxes (lines 2 through 7), per month 3.435 10.614 |
| | Gross-Io-Net table: 15.330 41.767 10. # children for whom resident parent. 2 2 11. Net income for Gross-Io-Net table, per month. 10.600 10.600 12. Total Taxes using table (line 9 - line 11), per month. 4.730 41.767 |
| | Total Local cost. 13. Total taxes to use (line 8 or 12, based on selection above) 3,435 10,614 |
| | |
| 43 | |



Add-ons to Basic or Shared Physical Care Child Support Obligation

HEALTH INSURANCE, MEDICAL EXPENSES, CHILD CARE AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES





<section-header><section-header><list-item><list-item>









Hypothetical 1

Sid and Nancy are getting divorced. They have two minor children. Sid grosses \$4,000.00 per month. Nancy grosses \$3,000.00 per month. Both kids live with Nancy, and spend alternating weekends, and every Wednesday night with Sid (104 nights per year). The children have medical insurance through the State of Illinois.

▶ Who pays what?

| | | Net Inc | ome |
|---------------------|---------|--|---|
| Monthly G Income | | Parent <u>with</u> the Majority of Parenting Time | Parent <u>without</u> the Majority of Parenting Time |
| 2975.00 - | 3024.99 | 2429 | 2376 |
| 3025.00 - | 3074.99 | 2466 | 2413 |
| 3075.00 - | 3124.99 | 2504 | 2451 |
| 3125.00 - | 3174.99 | 2542 | 2489 |
| 3175.00 - | 3224.99 | 2579 | 2526 |
| 3225.00 - | 3274.99 | 2617 | 2564 |
| 3275.00 - | 3324.99 | 2655 | 2602 |
| 3325.00 - | 3374.99 | 2693 | 2640 |
| 3375.00 - | 3424.99 | 2730 | 2677 |
| 3425.00 - | 3474.99 | 2768 | 2715 |
| 3475.00 - | 3524.99 | 2806 | 2753 |
| 3525.00 - | 3574.99 | 2843 | 2790 |
| 3575.00 - | 3624.99 | 2881 | 2828 |
| 3625.00 - | 3674.99 | 2919 | 2866 |
| 3675.00 - | 3724.99 | 2956 | 2903 |
| 3725.00 - | 3774.99 | 2994 | 2941 |
| 3775.00 - | 3824.99 | 3032 | 2979 |
| 3825.00 - | 3874.99 | 3070 | 3017 |
| 3875.00 - | 3924.99 | 3107 | 3054 |
| 3925.00 - | 3974.99 | 3145 | 3092 |

| Inc | come Sł | ares Sc | hedule | Based o | on Net l | ncome | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Combined Adj Incom | usted Net | One Child | Two Children | Three Children | Four Children | Five Children | Six Children |
| 775.00 - | 824.99 | 173 | 265 | 322 | 360 | 396 | 430 |
| 825.00 - | 874.99 | 184 | 282 | 342 | 382 | 421 | 457 |
| 5425.00 - | 5474.99 | 1001 | 1511 | 1808 | 2020 | 2222 | 2415 |
| 5475.00 - | 5524.99 | 1007 | 1521 | 1820 | 2033 | 2237 | 2431 |
| 5525.00 - | 5574.99 | 1013 | 1531 | 1832 | 2047 | 2251 | 2447 |
| 5575.00 - | 5624.99 | 1020 | 1541 | 1844 | 2060 | 2266 | 2463 |
| 5625.00 - | 5674.99 | 1024 | 1546 | 1850 | 2066 | 2272 | 2470 |
| 5675.00 - | 5724.99 | 1028 | 1552 | 1855 | 2072 | 2279 | 2478 |
| 5725.00 - | 5774.99 | 1032 | 1557 | 1861 | 2079 | 2286 | 2485 |



Hypothetical 3

(a) Return to the facts in the first hypothetical.
 Subsequently, Sid marries Chelsea and is living the dream with her and their 2 new children. Sid is claiming the multifamily adjustment.

(b) Chelsea divorces Sid. Sid is ordered to pay Chelsea
 \$800.00 per month for the support of their two kids. Sid is claiming the multi-family adjustment.

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Hypothetical 4 • Return again to number one. DCFS takes Sid and Nancy's children and places them in foster care because Sid was implicated in Nancy's untimely death. The State of Illinois is seeking support from Sid. His income is still \$4,000.00 per month based upon royalties he is receiving.

Hypothetical 5

► (a) One last time, go back to the first hypothetical. This time Sid gets a record deal and now grosses \$15,000.00 per month. Nancy's career in pharmaceutical sales has not yet blossomed, and she still grosses \$3,000.00 monthly. The Court has awarded Nancy maintenance in the amount of \$3,600.00 per month. Sid is now providing medical insurance for the children at a cost of \$200.00 per month.

(b) What if Nancy provides the insurance instead for \$200.00 per month?



Shared Physical Care Support Obligation Worksheet

| | | | | A | В | C |
|---|----|--|----|----------|----------|----------|
| | | # of Children for whom Support is Sought(#) | | Parent A | Parent B | Combined |
| | | | | | | Total |
| | 1 | Gross Monthly Income from All Sources (Includes maintenance received if established prior to 2019 and social security dependent benefits for subject child paid on behalf of the retired/disabled parent, less maintenance paid/payable if established prior to 2019; excludes means tested benefits (e.g., TANF, SSI, SNAP, etc.) and benefits/income received for non- | | | | |
| | | subject child.) | 1 | \$ | \$ | |
| _ | 2 | Standardized Net Income (Using Standardized Net Income Conversion Table) | 2 | \$ | \$ | |
| | 3 | Individualized Net Income (Requires joint stipulation or court determination) | 3 | \$ | \$ | |
| | 4 | Maintenance received if established after January 1, 2019, or by agreement of the parties | 4 | \$ | \$ | |
| Determination of Net Monthly | 5 | Maintenance paid/payable if established after January 1, 2019, or by agreement of the parties | 5 | \$ | \$ | |
| Income | 6 | Multi-Family Adjustment with Order: (Amount paid pursuant to the terms of the order.) # child(ren) for Parent A # child(ren) for Parent P | c | ć | ć | |
| — | | # child(ren) for Parent B | 6 | \$ | \$ | |
| | 7 | Multi-Family Adjustment without Order: (Lesser of amount paid or 75% of the support that should be paid based solely on requesting parent's income.) # child(ren) for Parent A # child(ren) for Parent B | 7 | \$ | \$ | |
| = | 8 | Adjusted Net Income (Add each parent's line 4 to | / | 7 | 7 | |
| | | line 2 or 3, then subtract line 5, line 6, and/or line 7 from that sum to determine his/her adjusted net monthly income to be used in the following steps. Next, add 8A and 8B to determine 8C.) | 8 | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| | 9 | Each Parent's Percentage Share of Adjusted Net Income (Each parent's line 8 divided by 8C.) | 9 | % | % | |
| Computation of — Basic Child Support Obligation | 10 | Basic Child Support Obligation Based on Combined Adjusted Net Income (Using 8C, find the corresponding combined net income on the Schedule of Basic Child Support Obligations.) | 10 | | | \$0.00 |

| | 11 | Each Parent's Contribution toward the Basic Child Support Obligation (Line 10C multiplied by each parent's line 9.) | 11 | \$ | \$ | |
|------------------|----|---|----|----|----|-----------|
| | 12 | Shared Physical Care Support Obligation (Line 10C multiplied by 1.5.) | 12 | | | \$ |
| | 13 | Each Parent's Share of the Shared Physical Care Support Obligation (12C multiplied by each parent's line 9.) | 13 | \$ | \$ | |
| - | 14 | Number of Overnights Per Year with the Child | 14 | | | 365 |
| Shared Physical | 15 | Percentage of Time with Each Parent (Each parent's line 14 divided by 14C.) | 15 | % | % | |
| Care - | 16 | Each Parent's Calculated Shared Care Child Support Obligation (Multiply each parent's line 13 by the other parent's line 15.) | 16 | \$ | \$ | |
| | 17 | Resulting Shared Care Child Support Obligation (Subtract Lesser of 16A or 16B from the Greater of 16A or 16B. Enter the difference in the column of the greater value from line 16.) | 17 | \$ | \$ | |
| Health Insurance | 18 | Cost of Child's Health Insurance Premium (Actual amount of the total health insurance premium attributable to the subject child, placed in the column of the providing parent.) | 18 | \$ | \$ | |
| Coverage | 19 | Each Parent's Share of the Child's Health Insurance Premium (Line 18A or B multiplied by each parent's line 9.) | 19 | \$ | \$ | |
| *Other Expenses | 20 | *Extraordinary Extracurricular Activities and School Expenses (Basic extracurricular activities and school expenses are included in the Schedule of Basic Child Support Obligation. Total cost entered in 20C. Then, to determine each parent's share, multiply 20C by each parent's line 9.) | 20 | | | \$ |
| | 21 | *Child Care Expenses (Total cost entered in 21C. Then, to determine each parent's share, multiply 21C by each parent's line 9.) | 21 | | | \$ |
| | | Child Support Obligation (If insurance is being provided by the parent who is also the obligor, then the obligee's share of health insurance from line 19 is subtracted from obligor's line 17, unless obligee's net income (line 2 or 3) is less than 133% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, with the resulting amount appearing at right. If insurance is being provided by the parent who is the obligee, then amount at right will be line 17. The obligor's share of the health insurance from line 19 will appear below and is ultimately added to the obligation.) | | \$ | \$ | <u>, </u> |
Health Insurance Obligation (If insurance is being provided by the parent who is the obligee, then amount at right will be his/her line 19 and is ultimately added to the obligation, unless the obligor's net income (line 2 or 3) is less than 133% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. If insurance is being provided by the parent who is the obligor, then the obligee's share of health insurance from line 19 is subtracted from obligor's line 17 with the resulting amount appearing as the Child Support Obligation and the number at right will be zero.)

*Although depicted above, items listed in the Other Expenses section (Extraordinary Extracurricular Activities and School Expenses and Child Care Expenses) are NOT included in the amounts shown as Child Support Obligation or Health Insurance Obligation. The court, in its discretion, may order either or both parents to contribute to these Other Expenses.

Calculation completed

\$

Support Obligation Worksheet

| Support Obligation Worksheet | | | | | | | |
|---|----|---|--------|----------|----------|-------------------|--|
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | A | В | с | |
| | | # of Children for whom Support is Sought(#) | | Parent A | Parent B | Combined Total | |
| Determination of Net Monthly Income | 1 | Gross Monthly Income from All Sources (Includes maintenance received if established prior to 2019 and social security dependent benefits for subject child paid on behalf of the retired/disabled parent, less maintenance paid/payable if established prior to 2019; excludes means tested benefits (e.g., TANF, SSI, SNAP, etc.) and benefits/income received for non-subject child.) | 1 | \$ | \$ | | |
| | 2 | Standardized Net Income (Using Standardized Net Income | | ć | ć | | |
| | 3 | Conversion Table) Individualized Net Income (Requires joint stipulation or court determination) | 2 3 | \$ \$ | \$ \$ | | |
| | 4 | Maintenance received if established after January 1, 2019, or by agreement of the parties | 4 | \$ | \$ | | |
| | 5 | Maintenance paid/payable if established after January 1, 2019, or by agreement of the parties | 5 | \$ | \$ | | |
| | 6 | Multi-Family Adjustment with Order: (Amount paid pursuant to the terms of the order.) # child(ren) for Parent A # child(ren) for Parent B | 6 | \$ | \$ | | |
| | 7 | Multi-Family Adjustment without Order: (Lesser of amount paid or 75% of the support that should be paid based solely on requesting parent's income.) # child(ren) for Parent A # child(ren) for Parent B | 7 | \$ | \$ | | |
| | 8 | Adjusted Net Income (Add each parent's line 4 to line 2 or 3, then subtract line 5, line 6, and/or line 7 from that sum to determine his/her adjusted net monthly income to be used in the following steps. Next, add 8A and 8B to determine 8C.) | 8 | \$ | \$ | \$ | |
| Computation of Basic Child Support Obligation | 9 | Each Parent's Percentage Share of Adjusted Net Income (Each parent's line 8 divided by 8C.) | 9 | % | % | | |
| | 10 | Basic Child Support Obligation Based on Combined Adjusted Net Income (Using 8C, find the corresponding combined net income on the Schedule of Basic Child Support Obligations.) | 10 | | | \$ | |
| | 11 | Each Parent's Contribution toward the Basic Child Support Obligation (Line 10C multiplied by each parent's line 9.) | 11 | \$ | \$ | | |
| Health Insurance Coverage | 12 | Cost of Child's Health Insurance Premium (Actual amount of the total health insurance premium attributable to the subject child, placed in the column of the providing parent.) | 11 | \$ | \$ | | |
| | | | | | | | |

| | 13 | Each Parent's Share of the Child's Health Insurance Premium (Line 12A or B multiplied by each parent's line 9.) | 13 | \$ \$ | |
|-----------------|----|--|----|----------|------------|
| *Other Expenses | 14 | *Extraordinary Extracurricular Activities and School Expenses (Basic extracurricular activities and school expenses are included in the Schedule of Basic Child Support Obligation. Total cost entered in 14C. Then, to determine each parent's share, multiply 14C by each parent's line 9.) | 13 | \$ \$ | \$ |
| | 15 | *Child Care Expenses (Total cost entered in 15C. Then, to determine each parent's share, multiply 15C by each parent's line 9.) | 15 | \$ \$ | \$ |
| | | Child Support Obligation (If insurance is being provided by the parent who is also the obligor, then the obligee's share of health insurance from line 13 is subtracted from obligor's line 11, unless obligee's net income (line 2 or 3) is less than 133% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, with the resulting amount appearing at right. If insurance is being provided by the parent who is the obligee, then amount at right will be line 11. The obligor's share of the health insurance from line 13 will appear below and is ultimately added to the obligation.) | | \$ \$ | <u>ι</u> τ |
| | | Health Insurance Obligation (If insurance is being provided by the parent who is the obligee, then amount at right will be his/her line 13 and is ultimately added to the obligation, unless the obligor's net income (line 2 or 3) is less than 133% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. If insurance is being provided by the parent who is the obligor, then the obligee's share of health insurance from line 13 is subtracted from obligor's line 11 with the resulting amount appearing as the Child Support Obligation and the number at right will be zero.) | | \$ \$ | |
| | | Calculation completed | | | |

*Although depicted above, items listed in the Other Expenses section (Extraordinary Extracurricular Activities and School Expenses and Child Care Expenses) are NOT included in the amounts shown as Child Support Obligation or Health Insurance Obligation. The court, in its discretion, may order either or both parents to contribute to these Other Expenses.

TAB 2

Hon. Arnold F. Blockman (ret.) presided over the family law division in Champaign County, Illinois from 2000 to September 16, 2016. He received his B.S. in History and Political Science from the University of Memphis in 1968 and his J.D. from the University of Illinois College of Law in 1973. He served as a Law Clerk to the Honorable Leland Simkins, Illinois Appellate Court Judge for the Fourth District, from 1973 to 1975. From 1975 to 1996 he was an associate and partner in the Champaign law firm of Hatch, Blockman & McPheters, P.C., concentrating in civil litigation. In November of 1996, he was elected as a Circuit Judge in the Sixth Judicial Circuit. He was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to be a member of the Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Civil Jury Instructions and served on that committee from 1979 to December of 1996. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. He was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court as a faculty member for the 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 Illinois Judicial Conference Seminar Series and the 2006, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2016 and 2018 Judicial Education Conference. He is a frequent speaker at various Illinois State Bar Association seminars on family law issues. He has published articles on various legal issues in a number of publications, including the Illinois Bar Journal and the Southern Illinois Law Journal. He is also an adjunct professor at the University of Illinois College of Law teaching a course entitled "Family Law Practice."

Pamela J. Kuzniar, Esq., practices family law in Cook, Lake and DuPage Counties. She is a Partner at Haid and Teich LLP; her primary practice is located at 77 W. Wacker, 45th Floor, Chicago, Illinois 60601. Her email address for CLE questions is kuzniar@Kuzniarsimons.com. She is a graduate of Loyola University (1980: Biology/Chemistry/English) and Loyola University of Chicago School of Law, J.D. 1991. She was admitted in Illinois, 1991, Northern District of Illinois 1991, and the Supreme Court of the United States of America, 2003. She was designated and elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Fellow in 2007. She serves by appointment as a Cook County Child Representative from 2006 to present. She is an Illinois Bar Foundation Fellow, member of the American Bar Association, Chicago Bar Association, DuPage County Bar Association, and Lake County Bar Association. She is an Author and presenter for CLE seminars sponsored by the Illinois State Bar Association, American Academy of Matrimonial Law, DuPage County Bar Association, National Business Institute and Circuit Court of Cook County. She has authored articles for the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin and ISBA Family Law Newsletter. ISBA Membership Activities include: Assembly, Family Law Section Council 2001-2007 and 2009 to present, CLE Coordinator for Family Law 2007 to present, and Chair of the Family Law Section Council 2013-2014. She is a Leading Lawyer, Super Lawyer and AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell and a recipient of the Illinois State Bar Associations' Board of Governors Award on June 20, 2014.

Jessica Patchik is a 2002 graduate of the DePaul University College of Law. She has worked at the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office as an Assistant State's Attorney since 2003, and presently supervises the office's Title IV-D Child Support Unit. She is a member of the Illinois State Bar Association Family Law Section Council and serves on the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services Child Support Advisory Committee. Ms. Patchik is also a member of the State Bar of Texas.

Stephanie L. Tang is an Assistant Professor of Law at Baylor Law School, teaching Family Law and Children and the Law courses. Before joining Baylor, Professor Tang was a Partner at a family law firm in Chicago, where she specialized in all areas of family law. She obtained multiple certifications as a mediator, fellow with Collaborative Divorce Illinois, and a Certified Financial Litigator with the American Academy for Certified Financial Litigators. Professor Tang received a B.A. in Psychology and Legal Studies with Honors from Northwestern University in 2012. She then graduated from University of Illinois College of Law in 2015, *Magna Cum Laude* with pro bono notation. Professor Tang is the current Chair of the Illinois State Bar Association Family Law Section Council.

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Amy Lynn Strege MEMBER SINCE 2007



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