



If you separate and have custody of a child

If you separate and have a dependent child **under age 18**, you may be entitled to child assistance, which is a refundable tax credit for families.

To receive the payments, you must have custody of the child **at least 40%** of the time per month (e.g., 3 days a week or 12 days a month).

What happens to your child assistance payments if...

- **you are the beneficiary when you separate?**

(payments are being made in your name)

- You must notify us of any change in custody so that payments can be made to the person or people responsible for the child.
- With a de facto separation, you will be considered to be “separated” if the separation lasts for **at least 90 days**. You must notify us only after that time period so that we can calculate the new amounts to which you are entitled.
- On your annual notice, be sure that “shared custody” is indicated for each child, as applicable.

- **you are not the beneficiary when you separate?**

(payments are not being made in your name)

- If you obtain shared custody, you may be entitled to a portion of the amount currently paid to your former spouse. If you obtain sole custody, you may be entitled to the full payment.
- In order to receive payments, **you must file an application for child assistance**.
- Child assistance payments can be made retroactively for a **period of 11 months** from the date on which the application is received, provided all of the eligibility criteria are met.

or

If a supplement for handicapped children and a supplement for handicapped children with exceptional care needs (if applicable) are being paid for the child, the amount of the supplement will also be shared between the two parents who share custody, or transferred to the parent who obtains sole custody.

It's all online

Use our online services to apply for child assistance or notify us of any change in your situation. You can also use them to sign up for direct deposit so you can have your payments deposited directly into your account.



The My Account personalized service lets you track your applications and quickly view any related changes in your file.

www.retraitequebec.gouv.qc.ca