

## POND FAMILY MEDIATION



Simplified divorce resolution.

### Florida Child Support Checklist

Use these items to determine the information you need to gather to accurately calculate child support for your case.

- Determining Income. Determine W2 employment. Bonuses, tips, and overtime included.
- Small Businesses Income. Watch for underreported taxable income.
- Income from Government or Employment Benefits. Include social security, workers compensation, and disability benefits.
- Retirement or Annuity Income. Pension, 401K payments or annuity income.
- Alimony. Alimony from a previous relationship is income.
- "In Kind" Reimbursed Expenses. Such as nontaxable housing pay for military service members. The value of rent if living for free with family.
- Imputing Correct Income. Impute income on an unemployed or underemployed parent.
- Subtracting Florida Recognized Deductions Health and Dental Insurance. Payer receives support credit.
- Figure in Taxes and Other Deductions According to Florida law
- Account for Other Expenses. Children can have unexpected and costly uncovered reasonable health expenses. Be sure to account for these and define how to handle.
- Day Care and Private School. Schooling expenses can be costly. Define these before the end of your child support case.
- Adjustments and Deviations. Consider parental time-sharing. If the parent paying child support has more than 20% of overnights, a sliding deduction occurs.
- Deviations from the Guidelines. Special situations, like a special needs child.
- Retroactive Support. Florida law allows unpaid support to go back 2 years prior to filing.
- Check Method of Payment. Florida has multiple methods to ensure prompt payment. Consider in advance how to support is paid.
- Life Insurance. It is wise to secure life insurance in case a spouse dies while a child is a minor.

- Termination and aging out for children. In multiple children situations, does the child support number change upon the older child turning 18?
- Dependency Exemption. Can be thousands of dollars for the spouses. Be sure to address.