

Can Child Support use my tax refunds to pay processing fees I owe?

No, your tax refunds may not be used to pay processing fees.

How often does Child Support submit cases with arrearages to the IRS and ODT?

Arrears cases that meet the qualifications listed in this brochure are submitted every Friday for the federal IRS tax offset, and once a year, in September, for the ODT tax offset.



Stark County Job & Family Services
Division of Child Support
Customer Service
330-451-8930

Stark County Job & Family Services

Division of Human Services

221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Cash, food, & medical assistance applications
Customer service: 1-844-640-OHIO (6446)
Child Care: 330-452-4661

Division of Children Services

402 2nd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Report child abuse and neglect: 330-455-KIDS
Foster care and adoption: 330-451-8789

Division of Child Support

221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Customer service: 330-451-8930
Payment information: JFS.ohio.gov/ocs

Executive Offices

221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Customer service: 330-452-4661

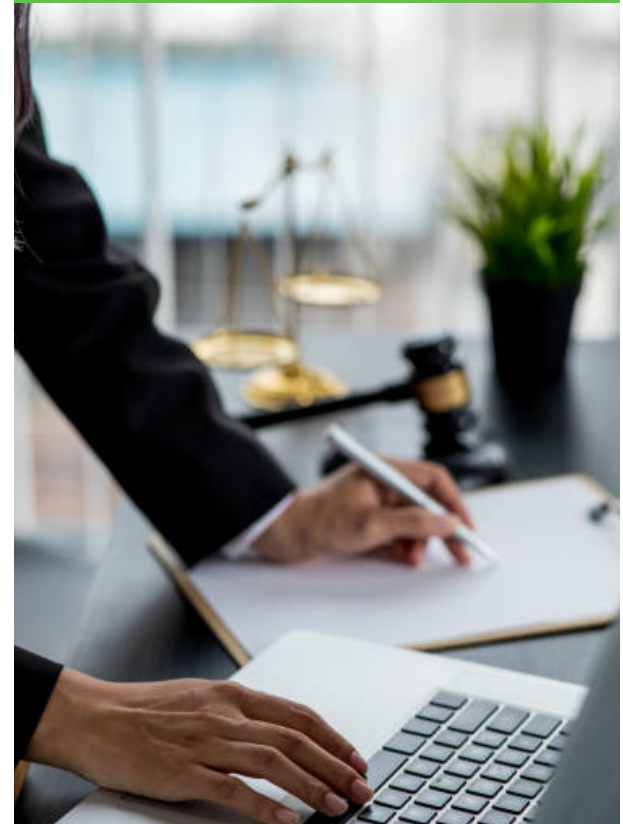
Visit our website at
StarkJFS.org



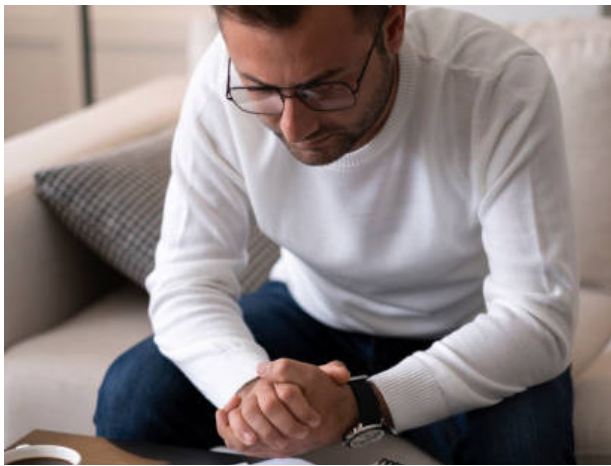
Tax Offset

How Child Support Can Impact Tax Returns

Division of Child Support



Stark County Job & Family Services
221 3rd St. SE, Canton, OH 44702
Phone: 330-452-4661
StarkJFS.org



I owe past due child support. Can the government take my tax refund to pay it?

If you are a non-custodial parent who owes past due child support (arrears), federal and state governments can collect this past-due support. They do this by intercepting (taking) your federal and state income tax refunds to pay off the delinquent debt.

At the federal level, this is done through the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). At the state level, it is done through the Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT). When the IRS and ODT intercept your refunds to pay delinquent child support, the process is called tax offset.

The IRS uses the following criteria for the tax offset process:

- Noncustodial parent owes \$150 or more to the Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services (ODJFS)
- Noncustodial parent owes \$500 or more to the custodial parent/caretaker
- Case is active
- There is a court or administrative order in place on the case
- There is a valid social security number for the non-custodial parent.

The criteria for the ODT is the same, except that the threshold is that the noncustodial parent owes \$150 or more regardless of to whom the money is owed.

Can my tax refunds be seized if I'm making monthly payments on arrearages?

Yes, if you meet the criteria above, even if you are making payments, your tax refunds can be seized.

Can my tax refunds be seized if my children are over 18?

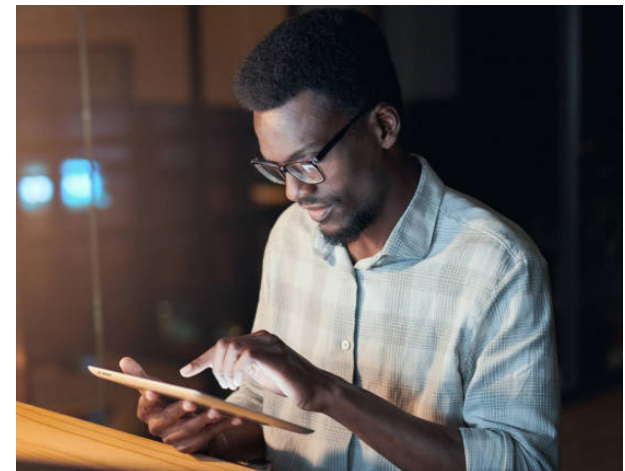
Yes, your tax refunds can be seized as long as you owe \$150 or more to ODJFS, or \$500 or more to the custodial parent/caregiver.

Why, if my federal refund is enough to pay off my arrears, is my state refund also taken?

Both federal and state refunds are taken because the IRS doesn't know the size of your state refund, and the ODT doesn't know the size of your federal refund. If, after using your IRS refund to pay your arrears, there is refund money left, it will be returned to you. If you believe that we are receiving more from your ODT refund than is due on the case, please contact our office to review the balances and determine if we are able to place a hold to return any excess money to you.

I just paid my arrears in full. I received a notice that my tax refunds will be seized. Why?

Your payment and the seizure of funds notice crossed in the mail. When your full payment of arrears is confirmed, and the necessary paperwork completed, you will receive any remaining refund(s).



Why has my income tax refund been placed on hold for six months?

This happened because you filed a joint income tax return.

How can my present wife/husband get back the refund money that may be hers/his?

She/he can file an Injured Spouse Form (8739) with the IRS.

Why does it take so long for the custodial parent to receive the tax offset payment?

When tax returns are seized, there is a lengthy process for making sure the money is correctly dispersed. The tax return is first sent to the federal Office of Child Support.

From there, it goes to the Ohio Department of Jobs & Family Services to be disbursed to the county Child Support offices.

Once the money reaches SCJFS Child Support, action is taken to release it to the party.

These steps take time, but they are important to make sure the money is correctly dispersed. If a joint return was filed, Child Support holds the refund for six months.