

CHILD SUPPORT IS NOT JUST MONEY

Financial support is critical, but child support is about more than money.

PTOC provides parents a simplified way to establish a parenting agreement without having to obtain an attorney, pay fees (\$120 minimum), or file in court.

Structured parenting time can help both parents manage their co-parenting relationship while reducing conflict and confusion that can harm their children.

WHY SHOULD I CONSIDER A PARENTING TIME ORDER?

If you and the other parent currently have a parenting time agreement that works for you and your child, that's great.

Establishing a formal parenting time order through PTOC gives you a back-up plan in case things change, and you later have trouble working things out with the other parent. PTOC is a simple process and it's free.




Cuyahoga Job and Family Services

Office of Child Support Services
www.cjfs.cuyahogacounty.us
216-443-5100 Fax 216-344-2997
1640 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44114

web portal: www.jfs.ohio.gov/ocs



www.facebook.com/CuyahogaCountyOfficeOfChildSupportServices
www.twitter.com/@cjfsoutreach

 <http://cjfs.cuyahogacounty.us/boldchat/>



Parenting Time Opportunities for Children



Cuyahoga Job and Family Services
Office of Child Support Services





What is parenting time?

Parenting time, formerly known as “visitation,” is the time a child spends with each parent, as agreed upon by the parents and/or ordered by a court.

The Parenting Time Opportunity for Children (PTOC) Program offers the chance for unmarried mothers and fathers to establish an agreed order when child support is first established.

Parenting time is important because ...

Children are better off when both parents are involved in their lives. They are:

- Five times less likely to live in poverty
- Three times less likely to fail in school
- Two times less likely to develop emotional or behavioral problems
- Two times less likely to abuse drugs
- Two times less likely to be abused or neglected
- Three times less likely to commit suicide

In addition, parents involved with their children are more likely to pay support and stay involved with their children.

Who is eligible for PTOC services?

- Unmarried parents establishing a first child support order
- Cases where both parents want to participate
- Cases where there is no prior report of safety concerns or family violence

Once established, PTOC parenting time orders can only be enforced or modified by privately filing a motion in Juvenile Court at the party’s expense.

Think safety first

Parenting Time orders are not available or right for every case.

In some cases, establishing a parenting agreement may not be safe for you or your child.

The PTOC program screens all parents for family violence and has resources available for parents with safety concerns.

If you are interested in PTOC or have questions, call **216-443-5100**; Chat on www.cuyahogacounty.us/boldchat or email at cuycsea@jfs.ohio.gov

How does PTOC work?

Step 1

Parents receive a copy of the Standard Order of Parenting Time with their hearing notice.

Step 2

Before their support hearing, parents will complete an application to determine their eligibility for PTOC.

Step 3

If both parents are eligible, they are offered an opportunity to establish a standard parenting time order at their hearing.

If parents are ineligible for PTOC or unable to reach an agreement, they may file for parenting time with the Juvenile Court. If parents want a customized agreement, or do not agree on the standard order, they may be referred to Cuyahoga County Office of Mediation.

Co-parenting guide

Each PTOC participant will receive a guide book with helpful tips for successful co-parenting.

