



Elatusvelvollisuus lapsen sijoituksen aikana / Maintenance responsibility during a child's placement

Parents are responsible for the maintenance of their underage child per their financial standing (Child Maintenance Act, Section 2). A child support can be confirmed for a child if the child is not living permanently with his or her parents. The amount of child support is confirmed with a child support agreement or by a court decision. The maintenance responsibility for both parents also continues during the child's placement.

In order to compensate for the costs for the family care, institutional care or living services provided for the child as support in open care, substitute care or after-care, the municipality is entitled to collect and withdraw continuous or non-recurrent payments, such as maintenance allowance, child support payments, pensions or child benefits that are granted for the child. At least 40 per cent of the child or adolescent's aforementioned income, with the exception of the child benefit, accumulates the child's independency assets.

How to proceed

The parent's maintenance responsibility for a child in placement is primarily confirmed with a child support agreement. If the parent does not have maintenance ability, the maintenance agreement can be made entitling Kela's (the Social Insurance Institution of Finland) maintenance allowance. The child support and child maintenance allowance accumulate the child's independency assets.

If the parent have maintenance ability, but not willing to make a child support agreement, a client fee accordant with his or her financial standing is imposed on the parent. The client fee is used in its entirety to compensate for the child's care and does not accumulate the child's independency assets.

When the child is put in placement, the parents should contact the Family Law Matters Unit in order to check whether the child support has been confirmed.

Contact person:	Markus Toivola	tel. +358 (0)9 310 43981
	Sirpa Vuorela	tel. +358 (0)9 310 33100

If child support is too small or large for the parent due to the financial circumstances the parent should take contact with the Family Law Matters Unit in order to make a change to the child support agreement.

The agreements are handled by:	Timo Patriikka	tel. +358 (0)9 310 43348
	Tommi Uimonen	tel. +358 (0)9 310 37666

Collection decisions for child support, child maintenance allowance, child benefit and the client fee are made by the Family Law Matters Unit. The collection decisions for other benefits are made by the responsible social worker.