

# Application for Maintenance

Family Law (Maintenance of Spouses and Children) Act, 1976, as amended.  
Civil Partnership and Certain Rights and Obligations of Cohabitants Act 2010, as amended.  
District Court



Form 54.1

## About this Form

This form is used to make an application to the District Court for a Maintenance Order.

- **Maintenance** is financial support paid by a person for the support of another person such as a dependent child, a spouse, a civil partner, or a qualified cohabitant.

There are **four sections** of this form:

### Section A

Party Details

### Section B

Maintenance Order Details

### Section C

Dependent Child Details

### Section D

Other Application Details

## More Information

For more information on the steps involved in making your maintenance application visit [courts.ie](https://courts.ie)

You should consider getting **legal advice** to get a better understanding of what is involved.

**Mediation and support services** are also available.



Scan the QR code for more info about Family Law, or visit [courts.ie](https://courts.ie)

The **Legal Aid Board** is a public body that provides legal and mediation services. To learn more visit [legalaidboard.ie](https://legalaidboard.ie)

## Office Completion Only

Case Number

District Court Area

District No.

Court office stamp

## Section A Party Details

In this section, please provide all applicant and respondent details



### Applicant Details

Details of the person making the application

First Name

Last Name

Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Town / City

County

Country

Eircode / Postcode

Email Address (Optional)

Contact Number (Optional)

### Applicant Solicitor Details (leave blank if not applicable)

First Name

Last Name

Name of Legal Firm

Contact Number

Address Line 1

Town / City

Address Line 2

Eircode / Postcode

## Section A Party Details

In this section, please provide all applicant and respondent details



### Respondent Details

Details of the person receiving the application

First Name

Last Name

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

Town / City

County

Country

Eircode / Postcode

### Mediation Details

Has mediation been attempted between the parties in relation to this application?

Yes

No



**Mediation** is a confidential service to help you reach agreement about your family law matter. For more information on mediation and what's involved visit [courts.ie](https://courts.ie)

## Section B

# Maintenance Order Details

In this section, please select the order(s) you wish to apply for



### About this Section

This section contains the orders that you can apply to the court for. All references to “The 1976 Act” and “The 2010 Act” are in relation to Family Law (Maintenance of Spouses and Children) Act, 1976, as amended and the Civil Partnership and Certain Rights and Obligations of Cohabitants Act 2010 respectively.

### Please go to the subsection that describes the relationship between the Applicant and Respondent


**1** Applicant and Respondent are **Unmarried Parents**  
Complete **subsection 1**, see **page 5**

**2** Applicant and Respondent are **Married**  
Complete **subsection 2**, see **page 5**

**3** Applicant and Respondent are **Cohabitants**  
Complete **subsection 3**, see **page 5**

**4** Applicant and Respondent are **Civil Partners**  
Complete **subsection 4**, see **page 6**

**5** **Other**, where subsections 1 to 4 don't apply  
Complete **subsection 5**, see **page 6**

 You must only complete the subsection that relates to the orders you are asking the judge to make. You should consider getting legal advice, as it is important that you understand the orders and only select those relevant to your application.

## Section B Maintenance Order Details

In this section, please select which order you wish to apply for



### 1. Applicant and Respondent are Unmarried Parents

Select all relevant orders you wish to apply for below.

Maintenance for dependent children	Section 5A (1) of the 1976 Act
Lump sum order in respect of birth expenses for a child	Section 21A of the 1976 Act
Lump sum order in respect of funeral expenses for a child	Section 21A of the 1976 Act

### 2. Applicant and Respondent are Married

Select all relevant orders you wish to apply for below.

Maintenance for the applicant	Section 5 (1) (a) of the 1976 Act
Maintenance for dependent children	Section 5 (1) (a) of the 1976 Act
Lump sum order in respect of birth expenses for a child	Section 21A of the 1976 Act
Lump sum order in respect of funeral expenses for a child	Section 21A of the 1976 Act

### 3. Applicant and Respondent are Cohabitants

Select all relevant orders you wish to apply for below.

Maintenance for the applicant as a qualified cohabitant	Section 175 of the 2010 Act
Maintenance for a dependent child under the age of 18 as a cohabitant who is a parent of the child, or acting in the place of a parent, from the other cohabitant who is not a parent but is a guardian of the child	Section 5B of the 1976 Act

## Section B

# Maintenance Order Details

In this section, please select which order you wish to apply for



### 4. Applicant and Respondent are Civil Partners

Select all relevant orders you wish to apply for below.

Maintenance for the applicant	Section 45 (1) (a) of the 2010 Act
Maintenance for dependent children	Section 45 (1) (a) of the 2010 Act
Lump sum order in respect of birth expenses for a child	Section 67A of the 2010 Act
Lump sum order in respect of funeral expenses for a child	Section 67A of the 2010 Act

### 5. Other (where subsections 1 to 4 don't apply)

What are you applying for a maintenance order under?

The Family Law (Maintenance of Spouses and Children) Act 1976

The Civil Partnership and Certain Rights and Obligations of Cohabitants Act 2010

What section of the act are you applying under?

Section

Please provide more details about the application you wish to make:

## Section C

# Dependent Child Details (if applicable)

In this section, please provide all relevant dependent children details



### Child 1 Details (Leave blank if not applicable)

First Name

Last Name

Applicant Relationship to Child 1

For example mother, father, or guardian

Respondent Relationship to Child 1

For example mother, father, or guardian

Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)

If this child is over 18 years old, please select the relevant option below that applies:

The dependent child is under 23 years old and is in full time education, or would be in full time education if maintenance were being paid

The dependent child has a mental or physical disability to such an extent that it is not reasonably possible for them to maintain themselves fully

### Child 2 Details (Leave blank if not applicable)

First Name

Last Name

Applicant Relationship to Child 2

For example mother, father, or guardian

Respondent Relationship to Child 2

For example mother, father, or guardian

Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)

If this child is over 18 years old, please select the relevant option below that applies:

The dependent child is under 23 years old and is in full time education, or would be in full time education if maintenance were being paid

The dependent child has a mental or physical disability to such an extent that it is not reasonably possible for them to maintain themselves fully

## Section C

# Dependent Child Details (if applicable)

In this section, please provide all relevant dependent children details



### Child 3 Details (Leave blank if not applicable)

First Name

Last Name

Applicant Relationship to Child 3

For example mother, father, or guardian

Respondent Relationship to Child 3

For example mother, father, or guardian

Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)

If this child is over 18 years old, please select the relevant option below that applies:

The dependent child is under 23 years old and is in full time education, or would be in full time education if maintenance were being paid

The dependent child has a mental or physical disability to such an extent that it is not reasonably possible for them to maintain themselves fully

### Child 4 Details (Leave blank if not applicable)

First Name

Last Name

Applicant Relationship to Child 2

For example mother, father, or guardian

Respondent Relationship to Child 2

For example mother, father, or guardian

Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)

If this child is over 18 years old, please select the relevant option below that applies:

The dependent child is under 23 years old and is in full time education, or would be in full time education if maintenance were being paid

The dependent child has a mental or physical disability to such an extent that it is not reasonably possible for them to maintain themselves fully



If there are more than four dependent children, please use the 'Additional Dependent Child' form available on [courts.ie](https://courts.ie)



## Section D

# Other Application Details

In this section, please provide details of relevant previous and ongoing court applications



Have other family law applications previously been made to this court or any other court about this child or relationship?

Yes

No

I don't know

If yes, please provide the following information

Case Number (if known)

- What were the previous applications in relation to?
- In which town or city were the applications made?
- When were the applications made?

## Signature

Signed by:

Applicant

Applicant's Legal Practitioner

Signature

Date (DD/MM/YYYY)

### Next steps for applicant

After completing this form you must **submit 3 copies** to the court office. For more information on next steps visit [courts.ie](https://courts.ie)