

CAN'T AFFORD YOUR COURT FEES?



If you can't pay your court fees, you may qualify for a fee waiver. Read the information here to learn more.

1 WHAT COURT FEES DO I HAVE TO PAY?

When you file papers in court, you often have to pay a filing fee. There may be fees for other things, too, like certified copies, court investigations, mediation, and more.

HOW MUCH ARE COURT FEES?

Fees vary depending on the court paper you are filing or what else you are asking the court to do. Scan here to see a list of court fees.



2 WHAT IF I CAN'T PAY THE COURT FEES?

If you cannot afford the filing fees or other court costs, you can ask for a "fee waiver." Getting a fee waiver means that you will not be charged court fees. You may qualify if:

- you are getting public benefits,
- your household income (before taxes) is very low, OR
- the court finds that you cannot pay for your household's basic needs AND the court fees.

3 HOW DO I ASK FOR A FEE WAIVER?



1 Read the Information Sheet on Waiver of Superior Court Fees and Costs (form FW-001-INFO).

Read this form carefully!

2 Fill out the Request to Waive Court Fees (form FW-001).

The instructions on this form will tell you how much of it you have to fill out.

3 Sign your request for a fee waiver.

You are signing this form under penalty of perjury. Your answers must be true, accurate, and complete.

4 Fill out Order on Court Fee Waiver (form FW-003).

On this form, fill out only #1 and include your case name and number.

5 Make 1 copy of your completed forms FW-001 and FW-003.

The original is for the court. The copy is for you.

6 Turn in your fee waiver forms, with copies, to the clerk.

The clerk will tell you how long it will take to process your fee waiver request.

NEED MORE INFO?

For more information about fee waivers, go to: <https://www.courts.ca.gov/selfhelp-feewaiver.htm>

