

# 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>

