HOW TO CALCULATE CHILD SUPPORT

For the purposes of establishing a new child support order or for modifying an existing child support order.

- Before you file your papers, it is a good idea to use a calculator to determine what the monthly child support amount may be.
- The California Department of Child Support Services has a free, online child support calculator.
- This will only be an ESTIMATE. The Court does not have to use your calculation. The other parties in your case can also submit a calculation which may differ from yours.

HTTPS://CHILDSUPPORT.CA.GOV/GUIDELINE-CALCULATOR/

CHILD SUPPORT IS CALCULATED BASED ON MANY DIFFERENT FACTORS.

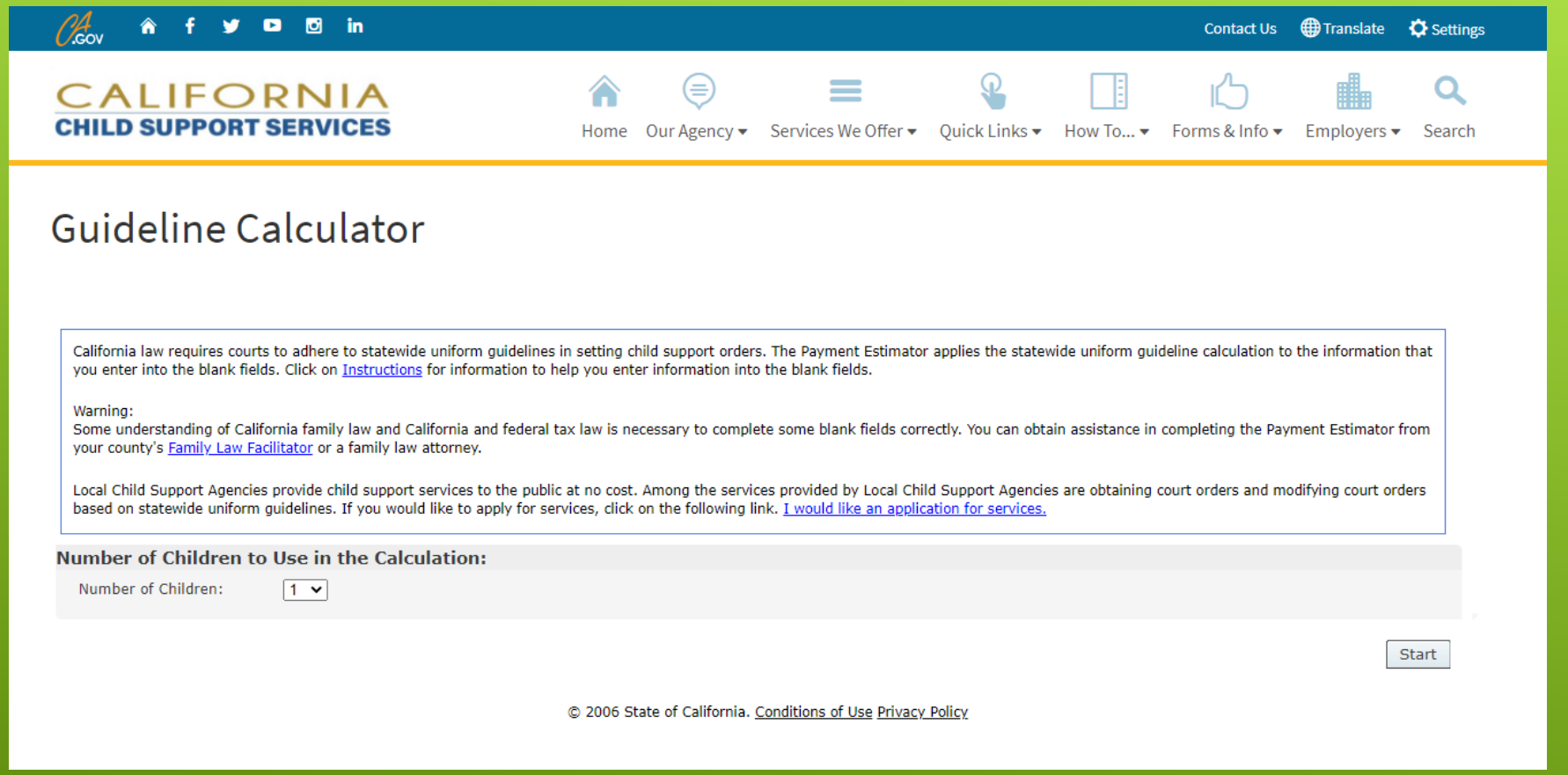
The two main factors are:

1. Parenting time with the child (as a percentage)

   &

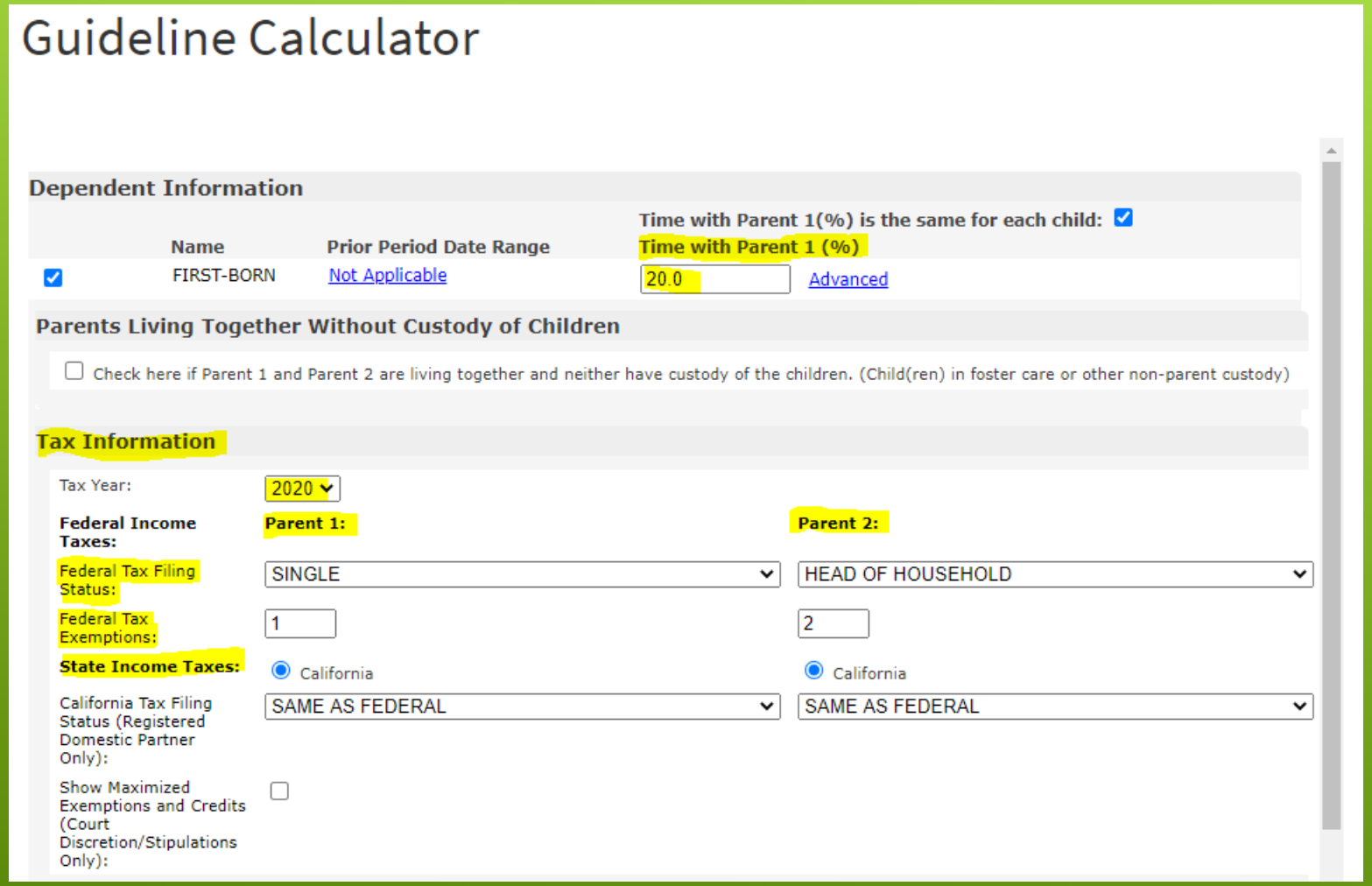
2. Parents' incomes

https://childsupport.ca.gov/guideline-calculator/



Start by entering the number of children for which you are calculating child support.

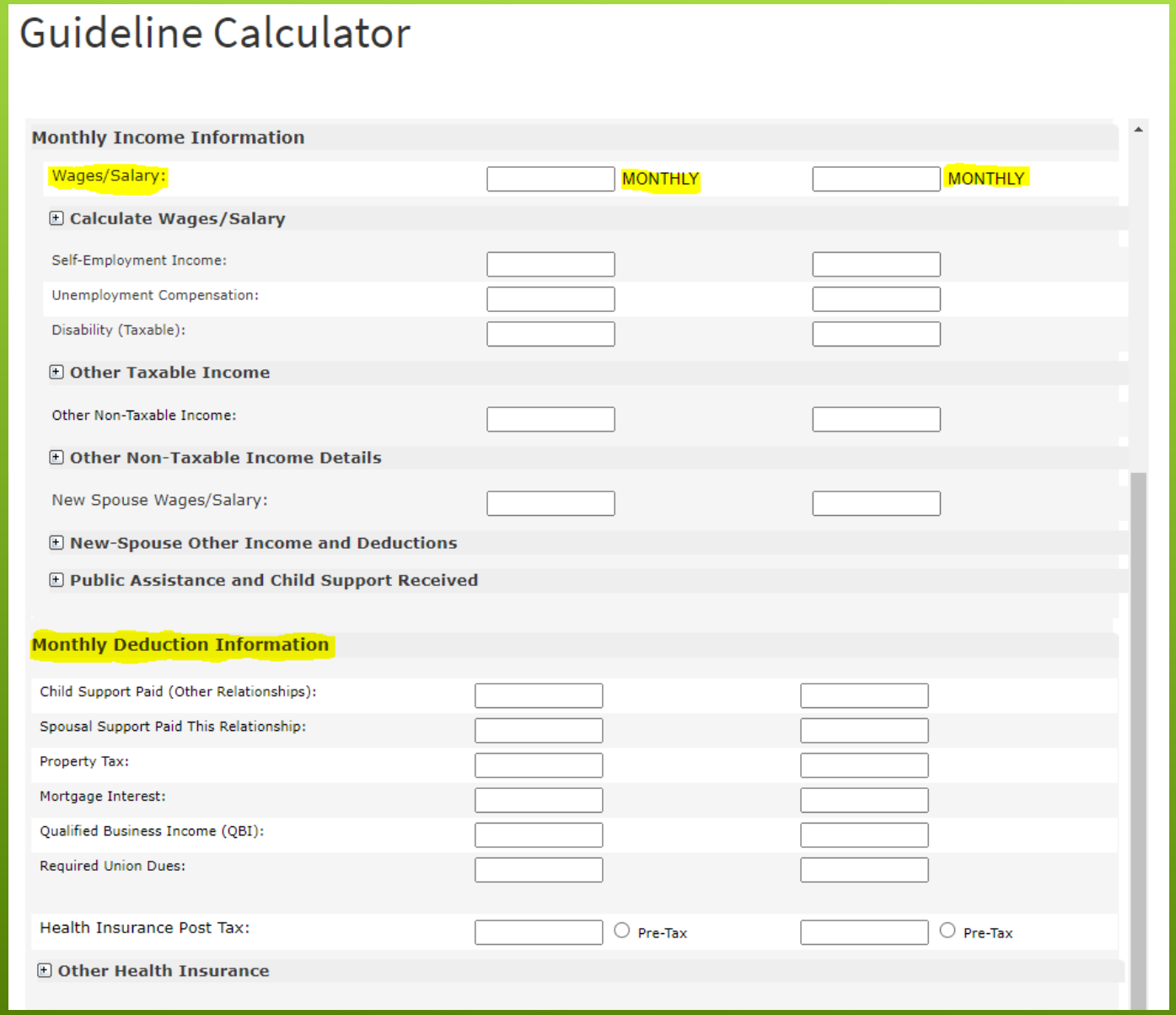
https://childsupport.ca.gov/guideline-calculator/



On the next screen, you will need to calculate the other parent's parenting time with the child(ren) as a percentage. There is an "advanced" link that can help you do that.

You will also need to indicate both parents' federal and state tax filing status and exemptions.

https://childsupport.ca.gov/guideline-calculator/

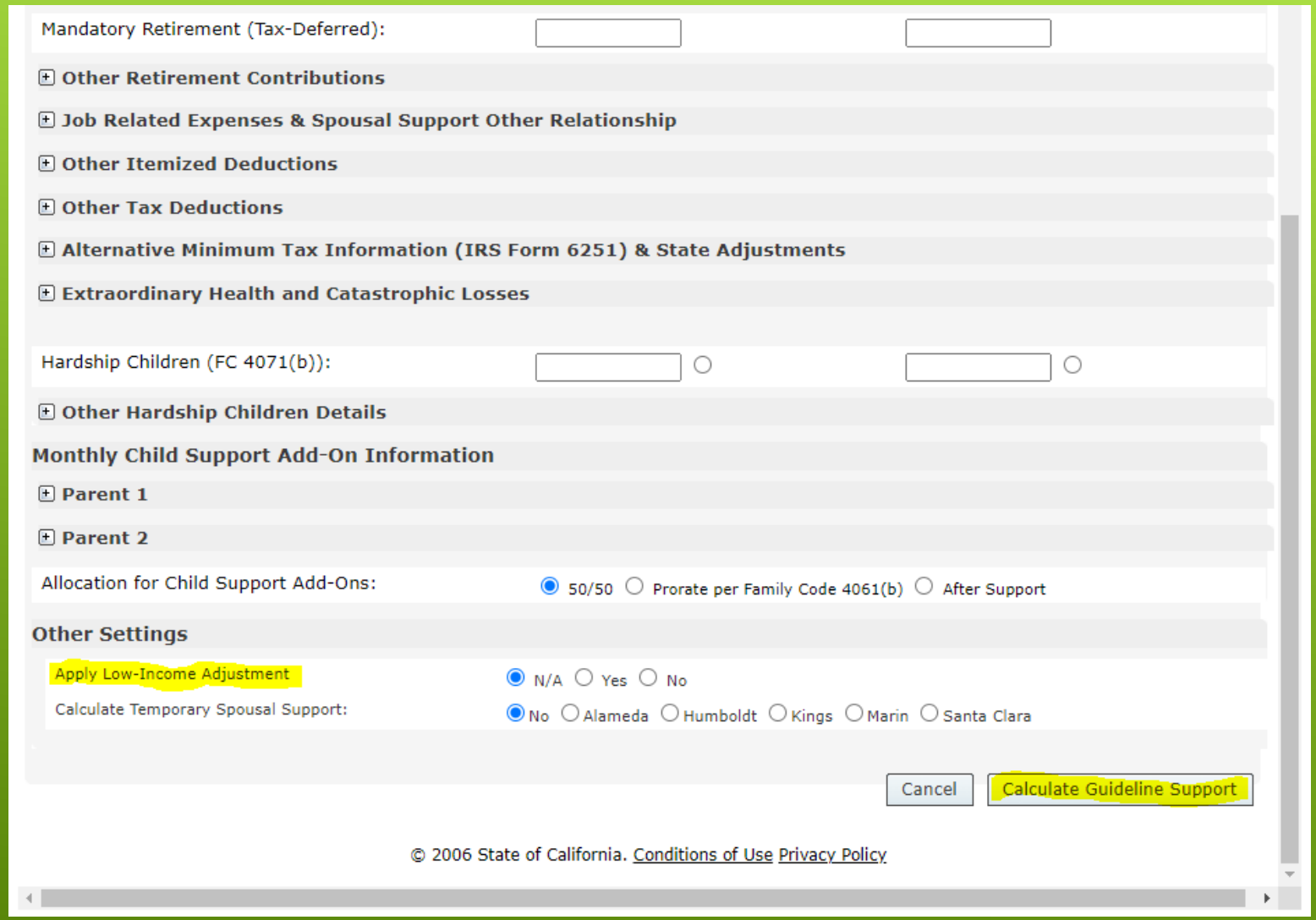


When you scroll down, you will see "Monthly Income Information" and "Monthly Deduction Information."

Enter the monthly income for both parents. If you are not sure, you will need to make your best guess. (Remember, the other parent can submit their own calculation, so you want to be as accurate as possible to get an accurate calculation.)

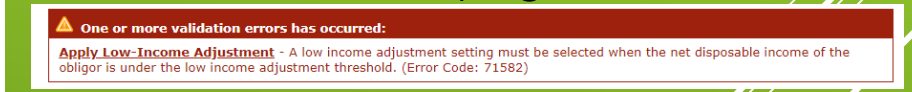
If you have monthly deduction information for either parent, you may enter it here. If none of these apply, or if you do not know, leave them blank.

https://childsupport.ca.gov/guideline-calculator/



There are other factors that may apply to your case, such as mandatory retirement contributions, and other tax deductions. If these apply, enter them here.

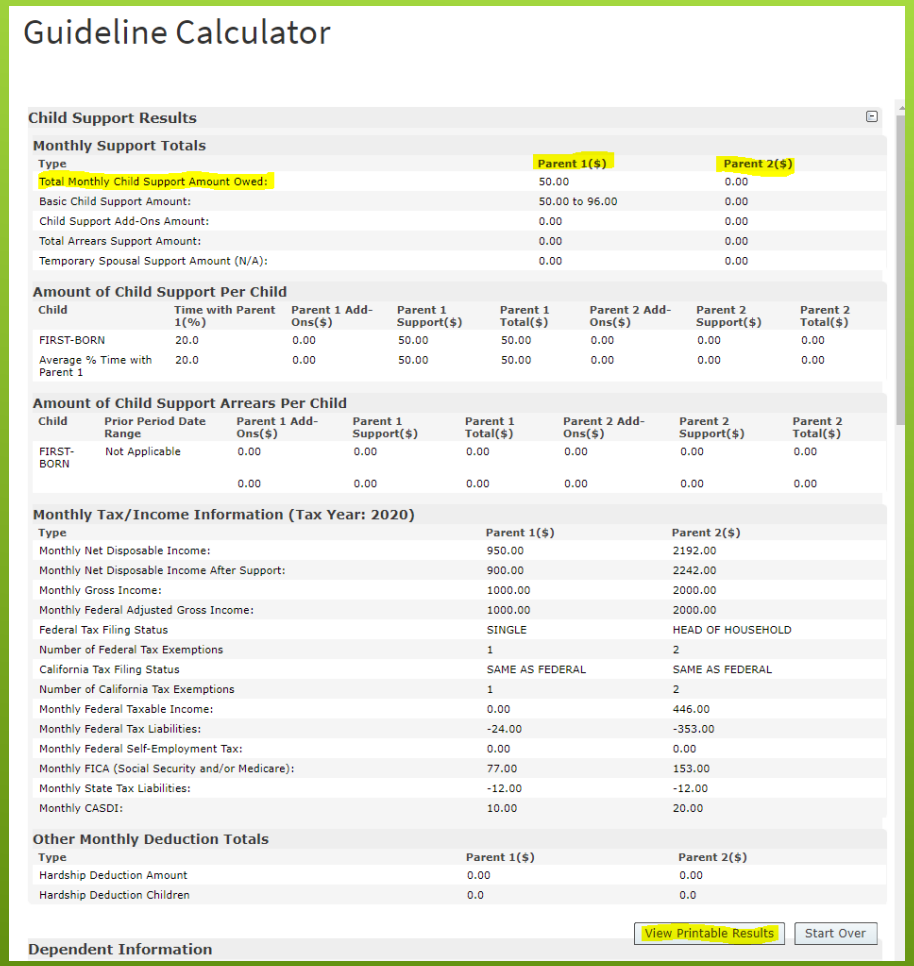
Depending on the parents' incomes, the system may ask you to apply the Low-Income Adjustment, which is down at the bottom of the page.



Once you have entered your information, click the button:

"Calculate Guideline Support."

https://childsupport.ca.gov/guideline-calculator/



Guideline Calculator

Child Support Results

Monthly Support Totals

Type	Parent 1($)	Parent 2($)
Total Monthly Child Support Amount Owed:	50.00	0.00
Basic Child Support Amount:	50.00 to 96.00	0.00
Child Support Add-Ons Amount:	0.00	0.00
Total Arrears Support Amount:	0.00	0.00
Temporary Spousal Support Amount (N/A):	0.00	0.00

Amount of Child Support Per Child

Child	Time with Parent 1(%)	Parent 1 Add-Ons($)	Parent 1 Support($)	Parent 1 Total($)	Parent 2 Add-Ons($)	Parent 2 Support($)	Parent 2 Total($)
FIRST-BORN	20.0	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Average % Time with Parent 1	20.0	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Amount of Child Support Arrears Per Child

Child	Prior Period Date Range	Parent 1 Add-Ons($)	Parent 1 Support($)	Parent 1 Total($)	Parent 2 Add-Ons($)	Parent 2 Support($)	Parent 2 Total($)
FIRST-BORN	Not Applicable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Monthly Tax/Income Information (Tax Year: 2020)

Type	Parent 1($)	Parent 2($)
Monthly Net Disposable Income:	950.00	2192.00
Monthly Net Disposable Income After Support:	900.00	2242.00
Monthly Gross Income:	1000.00	2000.00
Monthly Federal Adjusted Gross Income:	1000.00	2000.00
Federal Tax Filing Status	SINGLE	HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD
Number of Federal Tax Exemptions	1	2
California Tax Filing Status	SAME AS FEDERAL	SAME AS FEDERAL
Number of California Tax Exemptions	1	2
Monthly Federal Taxable Income:	0.00	446.00
Monthly Federal Tax Liabilities:	-24.00	-353.00
Monthly Federal Self-Employment Tax:	0.00	0.00
Monthly FICA (Social Security and/or Medicare):	77.00	153.00
Monthly State Tax Liabilities:	-12.00	-12.00
Monthly CASDI:	10.00	20.00

Other Monthly Deduction Totals

Type	Parent 1($)	Parent 2($)
Hardship Deduction Amount	0.00	0.00
Hardship Deduction Children	0.0	0.0

View Printable Results | Start Over

Dependent Information

In this example, the results show that Parent 1 has to pay $50.00 per month for child support.

The button at the bottom, "View Printable Results," takes you to a new screen (see image on the right→) from which you can print the calculation to attach it to your court papers.

Calculation Results Summary

Monthly Support Totals	Parent 1	Parent 2
Monthly Child Support Amount	50.00	0.00
Basic Child Support Amount	50.00 to 96.00	0.00
Child Support Add-Ons Amount	0.00	0.00
Child Care	0.00	0.00
Visits/Travel Expenses	0.00	0.00
School Expenses	0.00	0.00
Uninsured Health Expenses	0.00	0.00
Total Arrears Support Amount	0.00	0.00
Temporary Spousal Support Amount (N/A)	0.00	0.00
Monthly Tax/Income Information (Tax Year: 2020)	**Parent 1**	**Parent 2**
Monthly Net Disposable Income	950.00	2192.00
Monthly Taxable & Non-Taxable Gross Income	1000.00	2000.00
Monthly Taxable Gross Income	1000.00	2000.00
Monthly Non-Taxable Gross Income	0.00	0.00
Federal Adjusted Gross Income	1000.00	2000.00
Federal Taxable Income	0.00	446.00
Net Income After Support	900.00	2242.00
Federal Tax Filing Status	SINGLE	HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD
Number of Tax Exemptions (Federal)	1	2
State Tax Filing Status	SAME AS FEDERAL	SAME AS FEDERAL
Number of Tax Exemptions (State)	1	2
Federal Tax Liabilities	-24.00	-353.00
State Tax Liabilities	-12.00	-12.00
FICA (Social Security and/or Medicare)	77.00	153.00
Self-Employment Tax	0.00	0.00
CASDI	10.00	20.00
Public Assistance	NO	NO
Other Monthly Deduction Totals	**Parent 1**	**Parent 2**
Child Support Paid (Other Relationships)	0.00	0.00
Required Union Dues	0.00	0.00
Mandatory Retirement	0.00	0.00
Job Related Expenses & Spousal Support Other Relationship	0.00	0.00
Health Insurance Premium	0.00	0.00
Hardship Deduction Amount	0.00	0.00
Hardship Deduction Children	0.0	0.0
Extraordinary Health Expenses	0.00	0.00
Uninsured Catastrophic Losses	0.00	0.00

Monthly Support Amounts Per Child	% Time with Parent 1	Parent 1 Add-Ons	Parent 1 Support	Parent 1 Total	Parent 2 Add-Ons	Parent 2 Support	Parent 2 Total
FIRST-BORN	20.0	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Average % Time with Parent 1	**20.0%**	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

PARENT 1 is required to pay PARENT 2 $50.00 in CURRENT SUPPORT

- After you have your calculation, you need to decide whether or not you want to file your request to establish or modify child support.
- If you decide to file, contact the Self-Help Center for forms and information by phone at **(530) 822-3305** or online at **www.suttercourts.com/e-help.**