MAKING A SUPPORT OR SUPPORT VARIATION APPLICATION OUTSIDE BRITISH COLUMBIA

Using the *Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act* ('ISO')

Introduction

British Columbia has reciprocal agreements with all the Canadian provinces and territories, and with several foreign countries. These are 'reciprocating jurisdictions'. This means that BC and each of the 'reciprocating jurisdictions' have agreed to recognize the family support (maintenance) orders and agreements made in the other place. An order or written agreement made in one place is 'good' in the other.

The BC law about reciprocity is the ***Interjurisdictional Support Orders Act***, which is called 'ISO' as a short form. Each of the reciprocating jurisdictions has very similar ISO laws.

Using ISO, you can apply for a support order in one of the reciprocating jurisdictions without having to go there. You can also apply to change an existing support order. A person in one of the reciprocating jurisdictions can do the same thing. The person making the application does not usually have to go to court – the respondent (the person in the reciprocating jurisdiction) goes to court to *respond* to the application.

Does the other person (the respondent) live in one of the reciprocating jurisdictions below? If your answer is 'yes', you may be able to use ISO laws. If your answer is 'no', you cannot use ISO laws.

Reciprocating Jurisdictions – arranged geographically	
In Canada All Canadian Provinces and Territories **In the United States of America** All US States, and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the US Virgin Islands **In the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland** Any UK country: England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, Guernsey, Jersey, Isle of Man **In Europe** Republic of Austria* Czech Republic* Federal Republic of Germany* Gibraltar Kingdom of Norway Slovak Republic* Swiss Confederation* **In Africa** Republic of South Africa Republic of Zimbabwe	**In Asia** Hong Kong, Special Administrative Region Republic of Singapore **In the Oceans** Island of Barbados and its Dependencies Fiji Independent State of Papua New Guinea New Zealand (including Cook Islands)* *Australia* * Australian Capital Territory New South Wales Northern Territory Queensland South Australia Tasmania Victoria Western Australia
*Note: These jurisdictions may require special forms that are not available on the BC website. If your application is to one of these places, please contact IJSS office for assistance. (See contact information on other side.)	

ISO forms

There are several forms available for applications using the ISO laws. Not all of the forms are needed for every application. Each of the forms has a matching FormSupport guide which will help you fill in the forms. There are two ways to get the forms and guides:

1. **Go to the BC Ministry of Justice ISO FormSelect website at www.isoforms.bc.ca.**

   Use the FormSelect tool to help you identify which forms you need to make your application to a court in a 'reciprocating jurisdiction'. You can print the forms and guides or order them online from the Interjurisdictional Support Services (IJSS) and have them mailed to you, or

2. **Contact the Interjurisdictional Support Services (IJSS) at 1-866-660-2684.**

   IJSS can provide information about the ISO process and mail the forms and guides you need. IJSS cannot provide legal advice.

Important information

If you are applying to change a support order made under Canada's Divorce Act, you cannot use ISO forms. You may wish to speak to a Family Justice Counsellor at a Family Justice Centre for free information or speak to a lawyer. Family Justice Centre locations across BC can be found at: http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/life-events/divorce/family-justice/who-can-help/family-justice-counsellors

Some non-Canadian reciprocating jurisdictions will have special forms or procedures which must be used. If you are applying to obtain or change a support order and the other person (respondent) lives in a non-Canadian jurisdiction, you should contact IJSS to confirm the forms you need to complete.

To help you understand the ISO process, an *Introduction and General Information Guide* is available on the ISO Forms website. This guide explains how to get started, prepare your forms and swear your application.

Once you have completed your set of forms, you must mail three copies of your whole application package (1 sworn original package and 2 photocopies of it) to IJSS at:

Interjurisdictional Support Services
Vancouver Main Office Boxes
PO Box 2074
Vancouver BC V6B 3S3

Toll-free number: 1-866-660-2684

ISO Forms Website: www.isoforms.bc.ca