



Department of Child Support Services

**Are you named as the father of a child, but you do not believe that you really are?
Do you believe the man named as your child's father is not the real father?**

Now there's a way that, under certain circumstances, you can have a paternity test taken to find out for sure:

- This does not apply to judgments of dissolution, legal separation, or nullity.
- Depending on your circumstances, there is a time limit that you can ask the court to cancel the paternity judgment where you were named the father. Or, you can ask the court to cancel the voluntary declaration of paternity that you signed.
- To start the process, you must file a motion with Family Court in the county where the court order is currently registered. You should contact the Department of Child Support Services for more information before you decide to file a motion. They may arrange paternity testing for you.

If paternity testing shows the man previously determined by the court to be the father is not the biological father, the court may cancel the paternity judgment or voluntary declaration of paternity if they believe it is in the best interest of the child. In that situation, the court may stop any future child support and eliminate all past-due child support owed (arrears).

If the paternity test shows that you are the father, your voluntary declaration of paternity or paternity judgment will *not* be cancelled.

- Child support already paid will not be refunded.
- You are not eligible for consideration if:
 - You were married to each other and living together when the child was conceived.
 - Your court order was established in a state other than California
 - You adopted the child
 - Your child was conceived by artificial insemination
 - Your child was carried by a surrogate mother*Note - there can be other circumstances which make you ineligible*

**For help or more information, contact your local:
County Department of Child Support Services or Family Law Facilitator
You may also contact a lawyer for help or more information.**