

Child Support Appeal Form

Do you disagree with a Child Support Agency decision?
The SSAT provides quick, fair and independent reviews of Child Support Agency decisions.

SSAT Contact Details

Freecall™ enquiries	1800 011 140
International applicants	+61 3 6211 2800 (reverse charges accepted)
Website	www.ssat.gov.au
Teletypewriter service (TTY)	1800 060 116

Information in other languages

For information in another language, call 13 14 50 from anywhere in Australia and +61 3 9203 4038 from outside of Australia. The Translating and Interpreting Service can call us on your behalf.

Child Support Agency decisions can be reviewed by the SSAT

The SSAT has the power to review Child Support Agency (CSA) decisions and affirm, vary or set them aside, but only according to the law and only after a CSA objections officer has reviewed the decision. The SSAT can review most decisions made by the CSA, including:

- Change of assessment
- Particulars of assessment (income or level of care)
- Credit or refusal to credit Non Agency payments
- CSA refusal of extension of time to lodge an objection
- Acceptance or refusal of an estimate

The SSAT is independent & free

The SSAT is not part of the CSA; its members have expertise and experience in areas such as welfare and law. There is no cost to appeal to the SSAT.

The SSAT hearing

Child Support appeal hearings are required by law to be held in private. You may be represented (at your own expense) by a legal representative, advocate or welfare worker. In most instances you will still need to personally participate in the hearing, as a representative may make submissions but would not normally be expected to be able to give evidence on your behalf. To protect the privacy of the parties, persons who are family, friends or partners will NOT usually be admitted to the hearing room. If you intend to bring someone to the hearing please discuss this with your Tribunal case manager well before the hearing. A decision on who is admitted to the hearing room can only be made by the Presiding Member hearing the matter. Tribunal staff can advise about Tribunal processes but do not have the authority to make a ruling on who may attend the hearing.

Important: Children should not be brought to the Tribunal as they are not permitted in the hearing room and the SSAT does not provide child care.

Do you need help in filling in this form?
Ask a friend, community worker or call the SSAT on Freecall™ 1800 011 140.

Has the decision you wish to appeal been reviewed by a CSA objections officer?

Yes → Date of decision: _____

No → A CSA objections officer must review the decision before you can appeal to the SSAT. Please contact the CSA.

If it has been more than 28 days since you were notified of the CSA objection decision you may be out of time to lodge this appeal. To apply for an extension of time, please tick the box below and complete the rest of this form.

Yes → I wish to apply for an extension of time to appeal against a CSA decision.

If you are applying for an extension of time, please explain why an appeal was not lodged within 28 days of the decision notice and why you now wish to lodge an appeal.

Lodging an appeal

To lodge an appeal for a review of a decision of the CSA, simply:

- Call the SSAT on 1800 011 140; or
- Fill in this form and:
 - Post it to the SSAT (Reply Paid 9943 in your capital city: no stamp required);
 - Take it to your nearest SSAT office;
 - Fax it to your nearest SSAT office; or
 - Hand it in at any CSA, Centrelink, Department of Human Services or Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs office.

Your details

Title → Mr Ms Mrs Miss Other _____

Surname: _____

First name: _____

Date of birth: _____

Contact address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Telephone number: _____

Mobile telephone number: _____

Your CSA reference number, if known: _____

Would you like the SSAT office staff to correspond with you by email? Yes No

Email address: _____

Your appeal

Are you the: Payer Payee Other

If 'other', please state: _____

What decision(s) are you appealing about?

Briefly explain why you are appealing this decision. You will also have the chance to explain this at the hearing.

Please note that your reasons will be provided to all other parties involved in your appeal.

You may enclose more papers if needed.

Services provided for applicants

Which type of hearing would you prefer? In person Telephone/video (if available)

If needed, we can arrange for an interpreter to attend the hearing (at no cost to you).

Do you need an interpreter to assist you during the hearing? Yes No

If 'yes', which language/dialect? _____

Would you like to discuss a disability-related need (eg wheelchair access, sign interpreter etc)?

Yes No

An SSAT case manager will contact you to discuss how we can best meet your individual needs.

These questions are optional

Answering these questions will help us match our services to the needs of applicants.

Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin? Yes No

Were you born overseas? Yes No

If yes, which country? _____

What languages do you speak at home? _____

Please sign here

Your signature: _____ Date: _____

You will also need to sign below if you have a representative.

Representatives at the hearing

If you are being represented at the hearing please fill in the following section. Please note the SSAT can direct who may or may not be admitted to the hearing.

Do you have a representative?

Do you want letters from the SSAT sent to a representative (eg a lawyer or community advocate)? If so, please provide their details here:

Name: _____

Type of representative (eg lawyer, community advocate): _____

Postal address: _____

Telephone number: _____

Please sign here to authorise the SSAT to disclose relevant personal information to your nominated representative.

Your signature: _____ Date: _____

Privacy information about your appeal

Please note that the SSAT will disclose information relevant to your appeal to the other party and may disclose your information to government agencies if required. Further information on the SSAT's privacy policy is available on our website, at www.ssat.gov.au, or by calling 1800 011 140.