

Frequently asked questions about the Lien Registry:

Why is Child Support Enforcement (CSE) putting a Lien Registry on its Web site?

CSE is required by state law to create the Lien Registry. To see the Lien Registry law, please refer to state law at [N.D.C.C. § 35-34-02.1](#).

What is a child support lien?

A child support lien means that CSE is claiming an interest in some of your property as a way to secure your payment of your child support debt.

How does being on the Lien Registry affect me?

Being on the Lien Registry might prevent you from selling your property. If the property is tied up by a lien, you might not be able to find a willing buyer. If you are able to sell the property, some or all of the money from the sale might go toward your past-due support debt instead of to you. Being on the Lien Registry might also affect your ability to get a loan.

What property will be affected if I am on the Lien Registry?

Being on the Lien Registry means that a lien is created against some of your real property and your titled personal property in North Dakota.

Real property is land, any buildings on the land, and other things attached to the land (such as trees and minerals). Titled personal property includes vehicles of all kinds (such as cars and trucks, motorcycles, snowmobiles, trailers, campers, motorhomes, and some mobile homes).

Is there any of my real property or my titled personal property that will not be affected if I am on the Lien Registry?

The Lien Registry does not create a lien against the homestead or any property that is absolutely exempt under state law. For a definition of the homestead, please refer to state law at [N.D.C.C. § 47-18-01](#). For a list of property that is absolutely exempt, please refer to state law at [N.D.C.C. § 28-22-02](#).

What information will be shown on the Lien Registry?

The Lien Registry will list the name of the individual who owes past-due support and the amount of past-due support owed. The Lien Registry will be updated every week. Through the weekly updates, individuals whose payments have become past-due will be added to the Lien Registry, individuals who have paid off their past-due support will be removed from the Lien Registry, and past-due amounts will be changed, if necessary.

What if I don't agree with the past-due support amount shown on the Lien Registry?

Please contact your [regional CSE office](#) if you disagree with the past-due amount in our records and be prepared to provide proof of payment.

How much do I have to pay if I do not want to be on the Lien Registry?

You must pay your current support for the month, plus all your past-due support that is being enforced by CSE. To find out how much you must pay, please [contact the State Disbursement Unit \(SDU\)](#) or [contact the caseworker](#) assigned to your case. Tell the SDU worker or your caseworker that you are calling about the Lien Registry and that you want your “payoff amount.”

If you wish to pay the payoff amount by check or money order, please print and complete this [transmittal](#) and send it, along with the payment, to the address on the transmittal. Sending the transmittal with your payment will help assure proper crediting of the payment.

If you wish to pay the payoff amount by credit card or debit card, contact the SDU for instructions and refer to the [e-payment information](#) on this Web site.

Is there a way I can track the child support payments I make?

Up-to-date information about your case is available twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week through CSE’s secure Web site or interactive voice response phone system. You must [register for an authorization code](#) to receive the up-to-date information on your case.

If someone searches the Lien Registry and then contacts CSE to verify that the search has identified the correct person, what information will CSE provide to the searcher?

In general, CSE will confirm that the information provided by the searcher either matched or did not match the information CSE has in its records, but will not provide any additional information to the searcher. However, if requested, CSE will provide the year of birth, according to its records, for the person in question. Upon request, CSE will send a written response to the searcher if the information provided by the searcher does not match the information CSE has in its records.