

**TUSCOLA COUNTY FRIEND OF THE COURT
54TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT – FAMILY DIVISION
Health Care Expenses – Effective 10/01/2008**

The Michigan Child Support Formula provides that every order entered after October 1, 2008 contains a provision for **Ordinary Medical Expenses (OME)**. Ordinary medical expenses are defined as "...payee's co-payments, deductibles, uninsured, and other health care related costs for children eligible for support..." and do not normally include remedial care items such as vitamins, bandages and other routine over the counter items. The **standard** amount of OME is \$345.00 per child per year from January 1st through December 31st. The Court can increase this amount if there are known expenses that will exceed \$345.00 per year. Each parent will be responsible to pay a percentage of the OME based on his/her income. The payer of support will be charged monthly for OME in his/her child support order in addition to the base support amount. The payee recipient will directly contribute his/her share of the OME payment when the bill is paid. **If the court order does not provide for an OME, proceed to the instructions for filing for health care expenses below.**

For example, if the payer with two children is required to pay 70% of the OME, the payer's monthly charge would be \$40.25 per month (\$345.00 multiplied by two children, divided by 12 months and multiplied by 70%). This amount is paid to the recipient of support along with the child support per the court order.

Extraordinary Medical Expenses (EME) – Either parent may submit extraordinary health care expenses to the other party as described in the instructions below. The support payee may submit billings to the payer only **after the total family obligation (\$345.00 multiplied by the number of children) is met**. The payer of support may submit health care expenses to the payee at any time an expense is incurred for reimbursement of the payee's share. Payer expenses do not qualify as OME and must be shared as an extraordinary expense.

OME Tracking Sheet – See the attached form. The original receipts or copies of the itemized statements and documentation of any insurance paid must be attached to any billing submitted to the other party or the Friend of the Court.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING FOR HEALTH CARE EXPENSES

Pursuant to Michigan Compiled Law 552.511a, the Friend of the Court cannot process uninsured medical demands until certain requirements (See attached FOC 13 form) are met. For your convenience, we have enclosed a form entitled **Request for Health Care Expenses Payment (FOC 13)**. **Read this form carefully and make certain that you are in compliance with the timelines that are required by law.** It is your responsibility to properly fill out this form and send it to the other party. The other party has 28 days to reply to your request.

If you and the other party cannot work out an arrangement for payment of these expenses, you must fill out and submit to the Friend of the Court a form entitled **Complaint for Enforcement of Health Care Expense Payment (FOC 13a)**. You must make sure question number 3 is marked and question 4 is marked (if applicable).

Once the above mentioned steps are taken, you must provide completed copies of both forms (FOC 13 and FOC 13a) to the Friend of the Court office and your medical demand will be processed pursuant to the court order.

