

Rule 17.300—Form 316: General Answer to Application to Modify Child Support

The party served with an Application to Modify Child Support must file an Answer within **20 days** after receiving the Application and Original Notice, or the **court may enter a judgment against that party** giving Applicant what he or she asked for in the Application.

If the Application you received is on form 301, use form 315 for your Answer.

Read the *Guide to Representing Yourself in a Child Support Modification Case in Iowa* on the Iowa Judicial Branch website before using this form.

 *If filing electronically and you include protected information on this form, fill out or update the Protected Information Disclosure (311).*

 *If filing in paper, you may use form 311 to provide any protected information in full.*

If you do not understand how to use this form, or if you should use this form, talk to an attorney.

In the Iowa District Court for _____ County
County where Application is filed

Upon the Petition of

Petitioner

Full name of Petitioner as it is in the Application

and concerning

Respondent

Full name of Respondent as it is in the Application

Equity case no. _____

**General Answer to Application to
Modify Child Support**

1. Answer

A. I admit that the following paragraphs in the Application are true:

List the numbers of the paragraphs in the Application that you think are true. If you decide later that the paragraphs you list here are not true, it may be too late to change your answer.

B. I deny that the following paragraphs in the Application are true:

List the numbers of the paragraphs in the Application that you think are false.

C. I do not know whether the following paragraphs in the Application are true:

List the numbers of the paragraphs in the Application that you are not sure about. If you cannot say a paragraph or a part of a paragraph is true or not true, it may be because you do not know something, such as a date, place, or when something happened.

D. I deny anything in the Application that is not admitted in this Answer.

E. Other information: _____

2. Request *If you do not know what you want, talk to an attorney.*

I ask the court to: *Write here what you would like the court to do. For example, tell the court if you want the amount of child support you pay or receive to stay the same. Be brief. Do not write long descriptions.*

3. Attorney Help *Check one*

A. An attorney did not help me prepare or fill in this paper.

B. An attorney helped me prepare or fill in this paper.

If you check B, you must fill in the following information:

Name of attorney or organization, if any *Attorney's P.I.N. # – Ask the attorney*

Business address of attorney or organization *City* *State* *ZIP code*

(_____) _____ (_____) _____
Attorney's phone number *Attorney's fax number – optional* *Attorney's email address – optional*

4. Service Instructions

If the party answering the Application is filing in paper *Check one*

A. I will accept service of documents at the attorney's address listed above; or

B. I will accept service of documents in this case at the mailing address in section 6.

Continued on next page

5. Certification of Service by Mailing or Delivery

*Section 5 to be completed only if filing in paper or if Applicant is exempt from electronic filing.
This document, if filed electronically, will automatically be served on registered parties.*

I, _____, certify that on _____, 20____
Print your name *Month* *Day* *Year*

I mailed or gave a copy of this Answer to Applicant or Applicant's attorney at this address:

Name of person to whom I delivered or mailed it

Party's or attorney's mailing address *City* *State* *ZIP code*

6. Oath and Signature

I, _____, have read this Answer, and I certify under penalty
Print your name

of perjury and pursuant to the laws of the State of Iowa that the information I have provided in this Answer is true and correct.

_____, 20____
Signed on: Month *Day* *Year* *Your signature**

Mailing address *City* *State* *ZIP code*

(_____) _____
Phone number *Email address* *Additional email address – if available*

* *Whether filing electronically or in paper, you must handwrite your signature on this form. If you are filing electronically, scan the form after signing it and then file electronically*

Important Notice

- See next page for instructions for filing an Answer.
- You must serve this Answer on the other parties.
- If the Child Support Recovery Unit (CSRU) is involved in this case, you must also serve the Answer on CSRU.
- See the *Guide to Representing Yourself in a Child Support Modification Case in Iowa* for information on serving papers.

Instructions for Rule 17.300—Form 316: *General Answer to Application to Modify Child Support*

Do not file these instructions

Instructions for Filing an Answer to an Application to Modify Child Support

The Iowa Judicial Branch is converting the court system to electronic filing county by county. The electronic filing system is also known as EDMS. To determine if this case is in a county using electronic filing, [check the map](#) available on the Iowa Judicial Branch website under eFiling, or call the clerk of court office in your county. If your county accepts electronic filing, **you must file electronically** unless you get permission from the court to file in paper. Contact the clerk of court in your county if you are unable to file electronically.

Filing your Answer electronically

- If the Application was filed in a county that uses electronic filing, you must register to electronically file. For help with registration, see the eFiler's User Guide [How to Register Pro Se \(Self Represented\) for eFiling on the Iowa Judicial Branch website](#).
- Scan the signed Answer form and save it as a .pdf. (Save it in a place that will be accessible to you when you electronically file.)
- Log in to EDMS on the Iowa Judicial Branch website and file your Answer. The login page can be accessed from two different paths: you may [directly log in to EDMS](#); or from the judicial branch website menu, you may select "eFiling > eFile (EDMS) Login."
- For help, see [How to eFile to an Existing Case](#).
- You will receive a Notice of Electronic Filing (NEF) when the clerk of court has approved the eFiling of your Answer and other documents. You can then open the Answer and print a copy for your records.
- If there was a problem with your filing, EDMS will send you a Retraction Notice. You can then log in to My Filings, correct the error, and resubmit your Answer. For help, see [How to Resubmit a Returned Filing](#).
- The NEF will indicate if your Applicant is exempt from electronic filing requirements, in which case, you must mail or serve in paper a copy of the document on Applicant if he or she does not have an attorney.

Filing your Answer in paper

- Make two photocopies of the original.
- If the Child Support Recovery Unit (CSRU) is involved in your child support modification case, you must also provide each form you file to the CSRU office that serves the county where your child support case is filed.
- Take your original Answer form and the photocopies to the clerk of court's office in the county where the Application was filed. The county is listed at the top of the Application (form 301).
- The clerk will time-stamp your forms and copies.
- The clerk will take the original and give the copies back to you.
- Keep one of the copies for your records.
- Serve one of the copies of your Answer on Applicant.
- You can hand one of the copies of the Answer form to Applicant, **or** mail a copy to Applicant spouse at the address shown on the Application.
- If Applicant has an attorney, you should serve the Answer by mailing a copy to the attorney at the attorney's address.

Do not file these instructions