2017 Bradley Software Spring Training

How to "hit it out of the park"

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Fine Software For The Legal Profession Since 1992

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Today's Line Up

- Kansas Child Support Calculator
- Bradley ParentingTime Calculator®
- ArrearsMaster® Calculator
- Questions/Answers

Audience Participation

(Don't Worry - Singing Not Required)

- If you can't hear, please raise your hand
- Please silence your cellphone
- Keep your questions fairly general. If you have a specific scenario to discuss, we'll stick around for awhile at the end.
- Please fill out a survey as you leave. Just leave it on the desk in front of you.

Today's Goal: Expand Your Skills dealing with:

- The *Income tax considerations* adjustment
- Equal Parenting Time Creative Custody Scenarios
- Common Support Topics Including:
 - eFiling signatures
 - Removing a child
 - Party Labels how this works
 - Setting up your own default file

The Income Tax Considerations (ITC) adjustment

There are 4 elements

- 1. Income Tax Savings (Dependency Exemption)
- 2. Child Tax Credit
- 3. Head of Household
- 4. Standard Deduction

The Income Tax Considerations (ITC) adjustment

- Income Tax Savings (Dependency exemption)
 - The value of the tax savings is equal to the reduction in the parent's taxable income (the exemption value changes from year to year), multiplied by the parent's income tax bracket

The Income Tax Considerations (ITC) adjustment

2. Child Tax Credit.

The Child Tax Credit permits additional Federal taxes to be saved if a dependent child is under the age of 17 at the end of the tax year. This is a "dollar for dollar" credit against the tax, not merely a reduction in taxable income The amount of the tax credit is \$1,000 for each such child.

The Credit Is Not Related To The Parent's Income Tax Bracket.

The Income Tax Considerations (ITC) adjustment

- 3. Head of Household.
- Taxes saved through reduced tax rates for a taxpayer who can file as "head of household."
 - Note that a taxpayer can file "head of household" without claiming a dependent child. If the taxpayer is unmarried at the end of the tax year, and provided a home for a qualifying person (child, stepchild, foster child, mother, father, sibling or other blood relative) for more than half of the year. Thus, for a divorced couple with two children, both parents can claim HOH status if one of the children spends one day more than half the year with each parent.

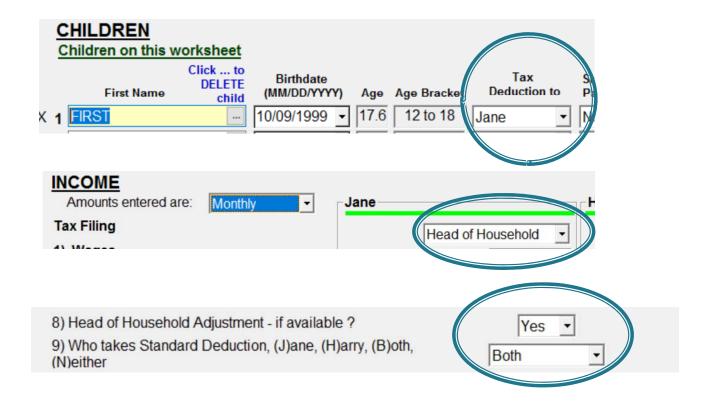
The Income Tax Considerations (ITC) adjustment

4. Standard Deduction

If, instead of itemizing deductible expenses, a parent elects to take the "Standard Deduction," a tax savings is generated to the extent that the standard deduction exceeds the total deductible expenses which could have been itemized.

The Income Tax Considerations (ITC) adjustment

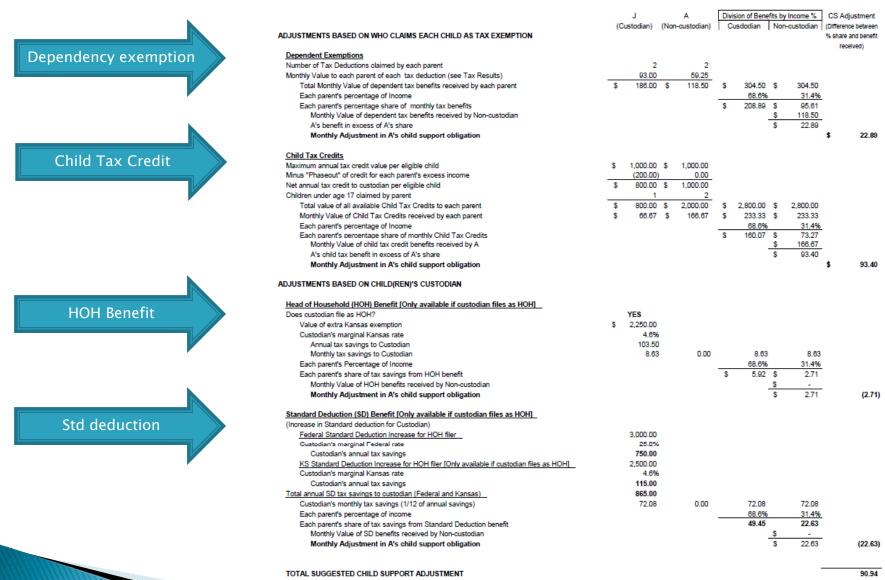
4 Input Areas That Control The ITC (In Addition To Income And AGI)



Income Tax Adjustment Report

Income Tax Considerations Adjustment Detail

(Note: The following amounts represent the calculated maximum amounts and may not have been allowed in full)



AGI - An Important New Data Item

AGI -Why this NEW input item is important.

The AGI is the basis of dependent exemptions, child care tax credits, and child tax credits

AGI - The Green Suggestion Bar

AGI - An Important New Data Item

- The adjusted gross income of a parent is a pivotal data item in calculating a child support amount.
- Composed of 13 separate income items, the AGI is found on the first page of a taxpayer's Federal tax return

AGI - An Important New Data Item

- A new feature on the Income page is a place in which to enter each parent's annual "Adjusted Gross Income."
- Other elements on the Income page can be entered either as annual or monthly amounts, but the Adjusted Gross Income ("AGI") is always an annual amount.



- The green "Suggestion Bar" provides the calculator's estimate of each party's AGI. You can also type in the AGI from the party's income tax return.
- (12 times monthly gross income plus or minus suggested spousal maintenance)
- Adjusted Gross Income is simply a parent's gross income reduced by a variety of adjustments (expenses) such as,

AGI - An Important New Data Item

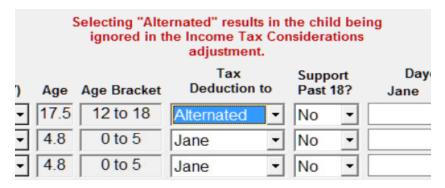
	23	Educator expenses	23				
djusted	24	Certain business expenses of reservists, performing artists, and					
ross		fee-basis government officials. Attach Form 2106 or 2106-EZ	24				
come	25	Health savings account deduction. Attach Form 8889 .	25				
	26	Moving expenses. Attach Form 3903	26				
	27	Deductible part of self-employment tax. Attach Schedule SE .	27				
	28	Self-employed SEP, SIMPLE, and qualified plans	28				
	29	Self-employed health insurance deduction	29				
	30	Penalty on early withdrawal of savings	30				
	31a	Alimony paid b Recipient's SSN ▶	31a				
	32	IRA deduction	32				
	33	Student loan interest deduction	33				
	34	Tuition and fees. Attach Form 8917	34				
	35	Domestic production activities deduction. Attach Form 8903	35				
	36	Add lines 23 through 35				36	
	37	Subtract line 36 from line 22. This is your adjusted gross	incom	ie	•	37	

The best place to get a parent's AGI is from the most recent income tax return (Line 37 - Form 1040)

Be sure to enter an AGI value for each parent.

If no value is entered, the calculator cannot determine a parent's income tax bracket, and therefore will not be able to value dependent exemptions, child care tax credits, and child tax credits, or calculate the Income Tax Considerations adjustment for Section E.

Alternated Tax Deductions



- Why do we ignore a child shown as "alternated" in calculating the Income Tax Considerations adjustment?
 - Because the Kansas Child Support Guidelines (Administrative Order 287) provide guidance for the calculation ONLY when the parents DO NOT alternate the exemption.
 - Consider: the exemption for a dependent child is allocated by the IRS on an annual basis to the custodial parent (the parent with whom the child lives the majority of the year, or the higher income parent).
 - So for an "alternated" child, which parent's tax rate should be used in calculating the value of the deduction?

Alternated Tax Deductions

- The value of a dependent child to a parent as a tax deduction is pretty easy when you know a few key elements such as the parent's income, the child's age, etc.
 - But if you don't know WHICH parent's income (and hence, the parent's state and Federal tax rates), or the child's age some future time (and hence, whether the child qualifies for the Child Tax Credit for children under 17), it becomes impossible to determine the value of the deduction to a particular parent (and hence, the Income Tax Considerations adjustment) accurately.
- Consequently, we recommend avoiding the "alternated" concept in designating which parent should receive the dependent child tax exemption.

Alternated Tax Deductions

- But there is a solution!!!
- Since the exemption is an annual matter (and we all file our tax returns annually), just select the parent who should get the tax deduction this year (the current year).
 - Then, re-run the child support calculation again early next year, selecting the parent who should receive the tax deduction <u>next year</u>.
- If you run the child support calculation each year, in late December or early January, you'll also have the benefit of updated program elements like current income tax rates, and current data regarding the child's age (for the Child Tax Credit and Child Care Tax Credit, for example), as well as updated parental incomes.
- Simple, when you think about it!!

Kansas Child Support Calculator Equal Parenting Time (EPT)

- Impacts of various EPT settings on the worksheet Residential Parent
- In every EPT scenario, you have two "custodial" parents
 - They just share the time on a more or less equal basis
 - So, if any of the children are EPT, both parents are the "resident with" parent at different times, and neither are "residential" all of the time.
 - Consequently, you may show either parent as "resident with" for one, some or all of the children, BUT IT'S NOT JUST THAT SIMPLE!

Equal Parenting Time (EPT)

Creative EPT variations

- "Faux Divided Custody"
- The guidelines don't cover all custodial arrangements such as some children in a family being time-shared (and the rest not).
- Such an arrangement creates two groups of children with different child support provisions so we have to separate the children into two groups (time-shared and not time-shared) and determine the support for each group.

Equal Parenting Time (EPT)

Creative EPT variations

"Faux Divided Custody"

In a true "divided custody," of course, the support for the two households (Mom's vs. Dad's) would be netted together to avoid each parent sending the other parent a check each month. The lower support obligation would be subtracted from the higher support obligation and the support differential would be payable by the higher obligated parent,

but since we're only separating the children for support calculations, and the support will be payable by only one parent, we'll add the support amounts together to determine that parent's total support obligation amount (usually).

Equal Parenting Time (EPT)

Creative EPT variations

"Faux Divided Custody"

Proceed as follows:

Show Dad as "Residence with" parent for each of the two shared kids, & show them as time shared equally, with shared expenses.

Show Mom as the "Residence with" parent for the third, "non-shared" child. Answer "No" to the "time shared equally?" question.

Show Mom as receiving the tax deduction on all three children.

Equal Parenting Time (EPT)

"Faux Divided Custody"

Using MFA to reflect actual family size.

If all three children were in the same household (rather than the "faux" divided custody) their support would be determined using a **three-child** support table.

We can force a three child table in the "faux" calculation, by using the Multiple Family Application section on the Children page. Just enter that Mom has 1 "other child" and Dad has 2 "other children," and selecting "Yes" for both parents.

That forces a three child table to be used for the one child in Mom's home (counting as her "other children" the two in Dad's home); and also for the two children in Dad's home (counting as his "other child" the one in Mom's home).

That may sound backward, but remember that in the MFA inputs, when calculating Dad's obligation to Mom for the single child in her household, the two children in Father's column are the two in his primary custody (although time-shared). Similarly, the one in Mom's column in the MFA inputs is the single non-shared child in her primary custody.

Equal Parenting Time (EPT)

Creative EPT variations

"Faux Divided Custody"

You get two worksheets (since it's a faux "divided" custody). If Dad has the higher line F.3 obligation on the worksheet for the shared children, add the two support amounts together. Why? – the support for the shared children (altho' reduced by the sharing) will be payable by Dad (as the higher obligated parent), (NOTE: NOT necessarily the higher income parent) and the support for the unshared child will also be payable by Dad (since Mom is the custodial parent).

However, if Mom is the higher obligated parent for the shared children (which would make her the support Payor) and the custodial parent for the unshared child (which would make her the support recipient), netting together the two support obligations would be appropriate and the net support differential would be paid by the parent with the higher obligation to the other parent

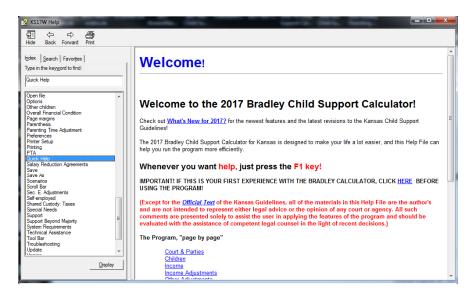
KS Child Support Calculator 10 Topics in 10 Minutes

Topics based on higher frequency of support calls

- Help
- Party Labels how this works
- Effective Date for Reports
- Removing a child
- Setting up your own default file
- eFiling signatures
- Maintenance percentage settings
- Enforcement fee settings
- NLTZ Limitation
- Print Filename in Footer

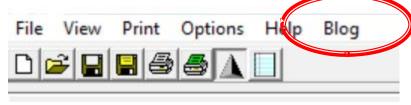
Help

- ▶ The <F1> key is VERY "helpful"!
- Easy Access to Full Guidelines





Don't forget about our Blog!



Party Labels – how this works

In the wake of the US Supreme Court's 2015 decision making same sex marriages legal in all states, the Kansas Office of Judicial Administration recognized that using the party labels "Mother" and "Father" was no longer appropriate, and the Child Support Advisory Committee elected to recommend "Party Name" and "Party Name" in Child Support related documents, such as the Child Support Worksheet.

The Kansas Child Support Calculator prompts you to use first names for each party.

Party Labels - how this works



- The party labels cannot be the same
- You can still use Mother and Father if you want
- If you turn OFF the Party Label warning It will not "nag" you about the Party labe



(Options window)

- about the Party labels being the first names.
- "Swapping" the party labels could mean a lot of work if you do it AFTER you enter other data.

Party Labels (click to swap)

Effective Date for Reports

Used to calculate ages of children in order to pull from

correct column in support tables.

Two settings

Use Today

Effective Date for Reports Use Today

Calculates ages of children as of today

Alternate Date

Effective Date for Reports

Alternate date

Support Amount (\$ Per Child)

Age Group

Age

12-18

Combined Gross

Monthly

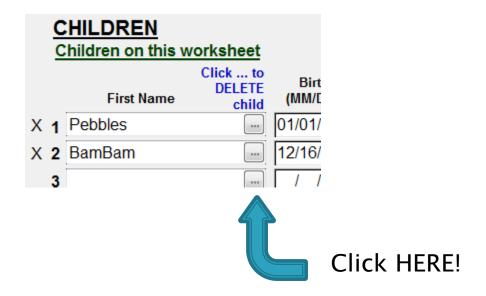
Income

Calculates ages of children as of the alternate date.

Best used to calculate what support would be when a child changes to a different age bracket

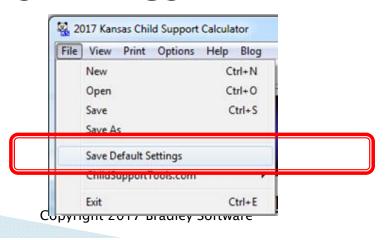
Removing a child

If you need to remove a child from the input then click on the button with three dots at the right end of the child's name you want to remove.



Setting up your own default file

- Open a new case
- Set each setting on each tab to what you want (typically you ZERO-out all entries and remove all children)
- Open Options menu change any settings and save.
- Click FILE menu Click SAVE DEFAULT SETTINGS



eFiling signatures

There are three options for printing the signatures – per the "Filing Signature" setting on the Courts & Parties tab



- 1) Blank Signature this shows a blank line for the attorney to sign and a blank line for the Judge to sign.
- > 2) <u>Proposed</u> Puts the word "PROPOSED" in the attorney signature line and totally clears the area where the judges signature would normally be.
- Jose e-signature this places the attorney e-signature (set up in the options window) in the line where the attorney would sign and it clears the area where the judges signature would normally be.

eFiling signatures

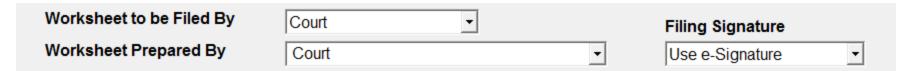
Don't forget to enter your e-Signature in the Options page

e-Signature /s/ Randy Spivey

- Pursuant to AO 268 Section E.2(a)
 - Signature Requirements.
 - (a) Electronic Signature. Filings must include a signature block with the name of the Filing User under whose ID and password the document is submitted along with "/s/[Name of Filing User]" typed in the space where the signature would otherwise appear along with other information required by K.S.A. 60-211, and amendments thereto, and Kansas Supreme Court Rule 111.

eFiling signatures

One Additional Rarely Used Option:



When the Filed By and Prepared By are both set to say COURT then the worksheet has a place for the Judge to sign and no place for the prepared-by to sign.

Prepared by:					
John Doe 1234 Main		Signed:	Judge / Hearing Officer		
Overland Park, KS (312) 222-2222 : e Court		Date Approved:			
Date Submitted:	3/31/2017		Prepared:	3/31/17	
		Administrative Order No. 287, eff. 9/1/2016	r repared.	3/3 // //	

Maintenance percentage settings

Set the percentage on the Options window.

Maintenance Percent for Suggested Amount: 20 💲 %

Effects the Maintenance Suggested amount





Suggestion amount = Difference between Total Monthly Income * Percentage

Enforcement fee settings

Enforcement Fee

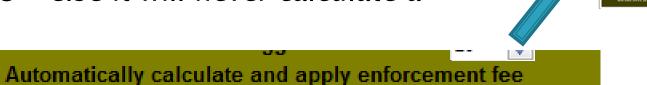
Percentage Fee

None

Dollar Fee

3 settings

- None
- Dollar Fee a fixed fee of a certain amount
- Percentage Fee Calculates the amount based on a percentage of amount on line F.4 of the worksheet Make sure the Max fee is more than ZERO - else it will never calculate a fee.



Check this Option to have the program automatically apply the calculated fee.

6.00

Maximum Fee

50.00

Not Less Than Zero Limitation

The "Not Less Than Zero" rule was created in 2012 as a new limitation in Administrative Order 261. Basically, the NLTZ rule excused a child support recipient from paying any part of a child's direct expenses, AND relieved the child support recipient from reimbursing the supporting parent for paying the recipient's income percentage share of the direct expenses.

Because Admin Order 284 makes the application of the "Not Less Than Zero" rule discretionary with the trial judge, we've included an option to either turn the NLTZ rule on (if the judge decides to apply the NLTZ rule) or off (if the judge decides not to apply the NLTZ rule).

Not Less Than Zero Limitation

Apply Not Less Than Zero Limitation

Check this Option to have the program automatically apply the NTLZ limitation when detected.



F. ADJUSTED CHILD SUPPORT SUMMARY (Deviations from rebuttable presumption an	nount)	Janie	Major	
Basic Parental Child Support Obligation Section E Adjustments (Line E.7) Adjusted Subtotal (Line F.1 +/- Line F.2)		507 5 512	607 (50) 557	1,069
4. Equal Time Adjustments Major Pays Direct Expenses Child Support after EPT Adjustment	(1/2 of Line F.3 Difference of \$45) (10% of Line D3 credit) s ("Not Less than Zero" Limitation Applied)		_	23 (111) *
6. Child Support payable by Major	(Higher obligation on Line F.3)		_	0

Print Filename in Footer

- Have you ever had two printed worksheets for different scenarios for the same client and didn't know which one was which scenario?
- If you use the Print Filename in Footer option then it will print the name of the file at the bottom of the worksheet.
- Only prints on physically printed documents.

Print Filename in Footer

3 Options

- Never
- Always
- Always except e-File looks at Filing Signature - if Use e-Signature then not printed.



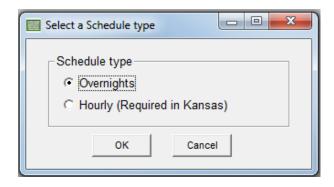




- Hourly versus overnight calculations
- Extending an hourly schedule into a full year
- Integration with the KS Child Support Calculator
- General Tips

Hourly versus overnight calculations

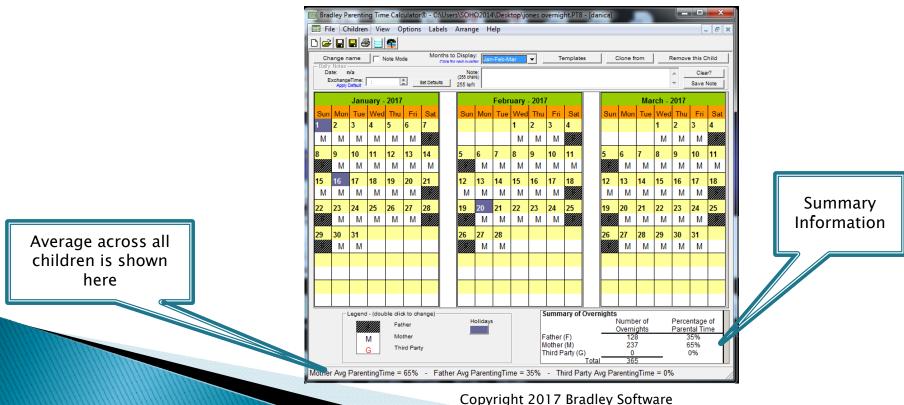
- Two Options
 - Overnights Allows you to look at an entire year and determine who has custody over night. Includes holiday schedules. Great as a Parenting Plan attachment.
 - Hourly determines custody on an hourly basis over the course of two weeks in accordance to the KS Child support Guidelines section IV.E.2.b.



Bradley ParentingTime Calculator® Overnight calculations

Shows overnight custody each day for 3 months at a time.

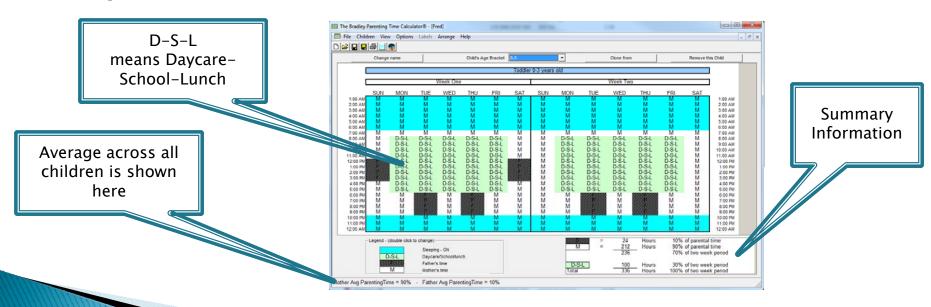
Highlights Holidays.



Bradley ParentingTime Calculator® Hourly calculations

Section IV.E.2.b

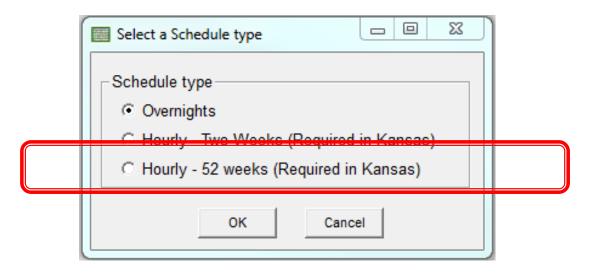
... If the child spends 35% or more of the child's time with the parent not having primary residency, the court shall determine whether an adjustment in child support is appropriate. In calculating the parenting time adjustment, the child's time at school or in day care shall not be considered. . . . The adjustment percentage should be averaged if there is more than one child and if the percentages are not the same for each child.



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DEMO

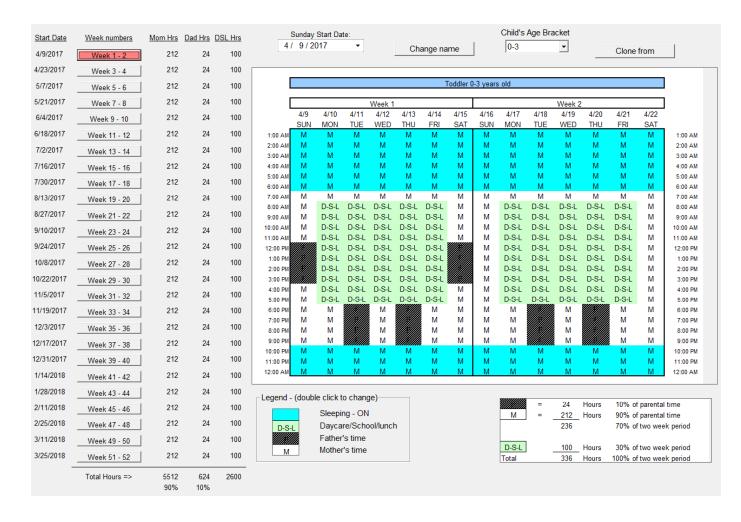
Extending an hourly schedule into a full year Coming soon is a new type of calendar



Allows you to make an hourly schedule for an entire year

Allows you to enter the custody by hour over two weeks and can see 26 two week calendars.

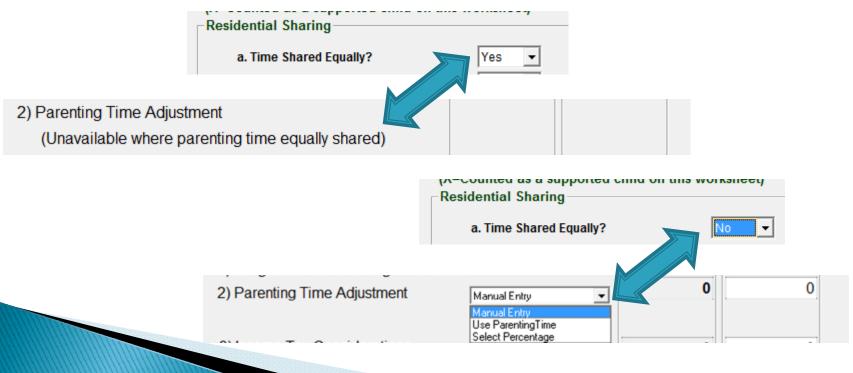
Shows the dates so you can see impacts on holidays, school, etc...



Integration with the KS Child Support Calculator

Pursuant to IV.E.2 – Only available when EPT is set to NO!

"If the shared expense formula (Section 111, General Instructions, subsection B.7) applies, no parenting time adjustment may be made under this section."



Integration with the KS Child Support Calculator 3- Options for Integration



Manual entry - you enter the actual adjustment dollars

Use ParentingTime - can either :

- Run ParentingTime program
- Get data from an existing ParentingTime file

Select Percentage – you enter the percentage adjustment This is NOT the percent of time with each parent – it is the percentage of line D.9 to apply as an adjustment.

Integration with the KS Child Support Calculator

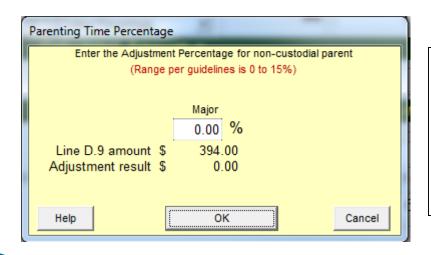
Use ParentingTime – can either:



- YES Run ParentingTime program
- NO −Get data from an existing ParentingTime file
- If you click NO it is the <u>easier</u> option because it allows you to complete the ParentingTime separately and just import the results.
- Once results are imported you can click on Suggestion to see percentages



Integration with the KS Child Support Calculator Select Percentage – you enter the percentage adjustment. The program shows you the current line D.9 amount and the adjustment result of your entry.



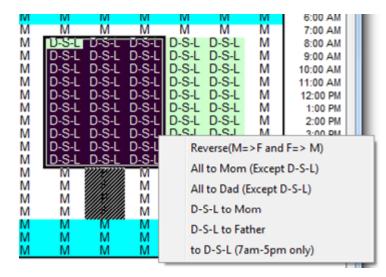
Percentages from Section IV.E.2.b

Nonresidential Parent's % of Child's Time	Parenting Time Adjustment
35%-39%	-5%
40%-44%	-10%
45%-49%	-15%

Bradley ParentingTime Calculator® General Tips

Highlight and right-click in the grid

You can make any hours D-S-L regardless of what the menu says. It accommodates overnight daycare



Highlight and press M or F to switch the entire selected to Mother or Father

Bradley ParentingTime Calculator® General Tips

Maximize the child window then use <F12>
Switches between Children – shows child name in title bar of window.

<F11> key adds a child

For Hourly Schedule – Remove Sleeping hours display in Options



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Bradley ParentingTime Calculator® General Tips

Overnight Schedule – designed as a way to augment Parenting Plans.
Visually shows contents of the plan.

- Shows holidays
- Prints holiday schedule
- Prints a calendar to give to parents
- Allows third party custody
- Allows you to create templates for various school districts (spring break, vacation, etc...)
- Allows Note entry



This program is used to create a date-ordered schedule of obligations and payments made for a case.

The program then calculates and accumulates the interest due on any past-due obligation providing a line-by-line output of all details in the calculation.

By taking this kind of case on as a contingent collections case you can agree on a contingent collection fee (%) as payment for your services.

- A Simple case
 - Entry
 - Interpreting the Output
- How to import from KPC
- Issues in the KPC Import

Entry

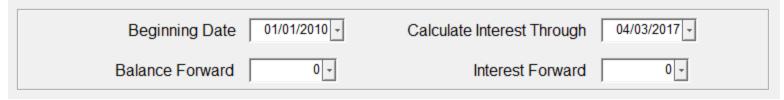
3 areas of entry

- Case Info General Info about the case
- Support Obligations entry of obligations
- Payments & Adjustments entry of payments

Case Data

- The most important thing is the STATE entry.
- Selecting a state will apply the statutory rates for that state.
- If you want a FIXED interest rate then scroll to bottom of STATE list and select FIXED – then enter the rate.
- If you want NO INTEREST then then scroll to bottom of STATE list and select ZERO.

Support Obligations



- Enter the beginning date for the report.
- Enter the ending date for the report. The default is "today". You can use future dates just remember that interest rates could change.
- Enter any Balance forward and/or interest forward.

Support Obligations "Grids"

- Each of the three "grids" work the same way
- Enter the start date then the amount, then the frequency.
- Press the Enter key to add a new row.

U	niid Support	
Date	Amount	Frequency
1 /1 /2010	100.00	Monthly
03/01/2014	0	End-Date

- Transactions will be extracted on the chosen frequency.
- Until the obligation changes the amount will occur on that frequency.
- Use a frequency of "End-Date" to end the transaction before the end of the report.

Payments and Adjustments "Grids"

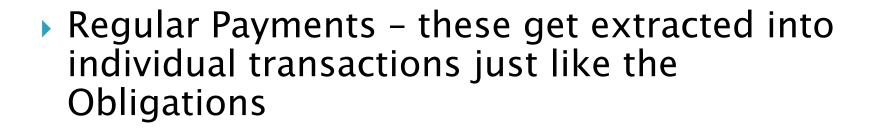
Individual Payments – there is no frequency.
Individual Payments can be imported from

ndividual Payments

Generate Payments

Clear All Payments

the KPC.

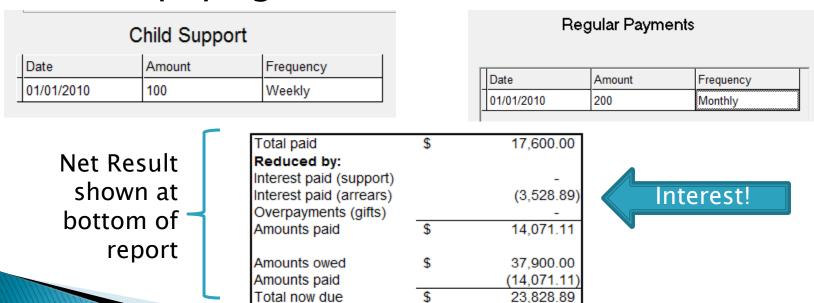


 Adjustments – similar to Regular Payments but the amount can be negative or positive.

Import Payments

A Very simple Case"

- Starting on 1/1/2010 through 4/3/2017
- Dad's obligation to mom is \$100/week for Child Support
- Dad is paying \$200 once a month



Importing From KPC Website

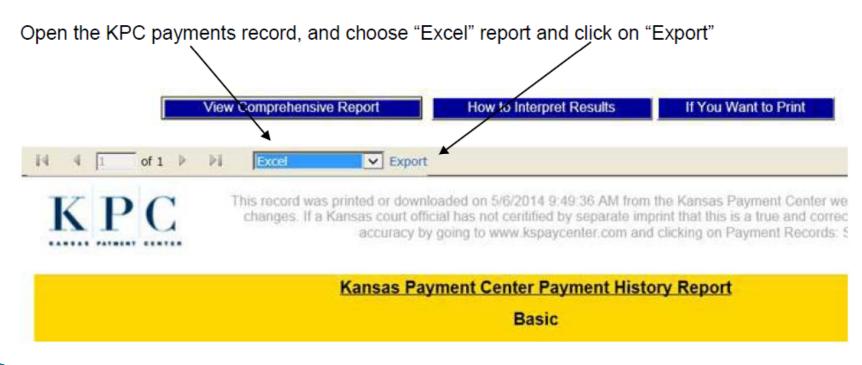
Three Easy Steps

- Go to KPC Website log in Get Case Export to Excel – save to PC
- Open ArrearsMaster®
 Click on Import Payments button
- 3. Enter info to import spreadsheet with KPC data. Click Import

All data from KPC is now in the Individual Payments "grid".

ArrearsMaster® Calculator KPC Import Step 1

The KPC website offers the ability to export the payment record in a child support or spousal maintenance case. That record can then be read directly by ArrearsMaster® and used to calculate the interest due to the support recipient for late and unpaid installments of support.



ArrearsMaster® Calculator KPC Import Step 2 Tab to click on

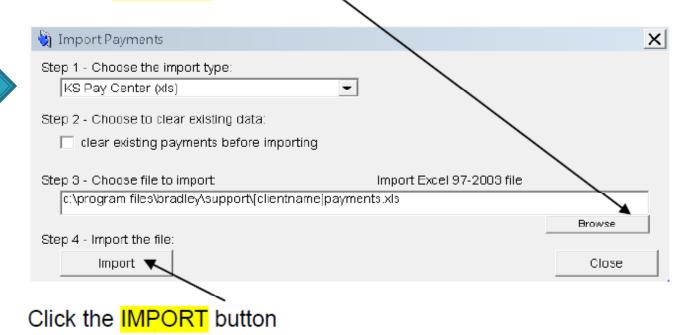
Generate Payments

Import Payments	Import Payments	
Clear All Payments	Sort	Sort
Clear All Payments	Case Data	
Case Data	Support Obligations	
Instructions: Press ENTER to n to the NEXT cell in the Garage To add a row - Press ENTER while in the bottom To delete leteral a row - RIGHT Click on a cell in the control of the contr		

Button Opens Import Window

ArrearsMaster® Calculator KPC Import Step 3

Use the **BROWSE** button to select the payments file you exported from KPC



The payments will be imported and sorted by date.

KPC - Handling Import Issues

Occasionally you might see where the KPC entered a transaction that is later reversed because the original was a mistake.

To ensure correct calculations you must delete both the original transaction AND the corrected entry. Otherwise the program will calculate interest due on an amount due that is not accurate.







Originally developed for pro-se litigants.

Works just like the professional version but is used/paid-for on a case-by-case basis.

Many lawyers who only do occasional family law cases are now using this.



"Save to the cloud" – Soon available with your paid subscription of the professional version at no added fee.

Allows you to take your worksheets "on-the-road" with you and is accessible from any internet-connected mobile device.

Make changes while on-the-road.

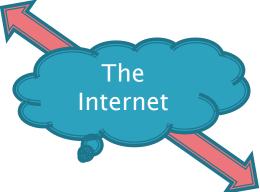
Then open the changed worksheet from your office.





You will be able to "Save-To-The-Cloud"

Professional Version



ChildSupportTools.com

COURT & PARTIES		
CourtName (Required)	IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS	
CourtName 2(Optional)	new server	
Caption Line 1	In the Matter of	
Petitioner Name	Jane Doe	
Respondent Name	John Doe	
Case No		
Division or Courtroom	SN 201	
Worksheet to be Filed By	Mother •	
Worksheet Prepared By	Mother •	
Effective Date for Calculations	Use Today 💌	

Questions / Answers

Wrap up

Please fill out a survey as you leave!

Thank you!