

Attending court without a lawyer for a motion to change



A **motion to change** is the process you use to ask a judge to change a final court order for:



Support payments



Custody



Access



Restraining/
non-harassment



After filing all your forms:

- ✓ You will have to attend a case conference.
- ✓ You are responsible for scheduling your case conference.
- ✓ At a case conference, you and the other party speak in court in front of a judge about your circumstances.
- ✓ You can ask for an interpreter or a special arrangement because of a disability at any stage in the court process. Contact the court and ask to speak with their Accessibility Coordinator.
- ✓ You must confirm your court date by 2 p.m. at least two days before your scheduled hearing.



To do this, you must fill out and file Form 14C: Confirmation.

What to bring for your own reference at court:

- 1 A copy of each form you served or filed
- 2 A copy of your supporting documents
- 3 A copy of your existing court order or written agreement (already filed with the court) that you're asking to change

Be prepared to speak in the courtroom about your documents or circumstances.

To change terms other than support, like decision-making responsibility, parenting time, or spousal support, you must show a material change in circumstances.

This means **you must show that your situation has changed so much that your order or agreement needs to be changed.**

The judge will have all the documents, and they may have questions for you to help them decide about your court order.

A motion to change can have three outcomes:

1

The judge makes a temporary court order that lasts for a few weeks or months while you and your partner continue to try to resolve your issues.

2

The judge makes a final decision on your court order right away.

3

The judge “reserves” their decision. This means they review the evidence and tell you their final decision on a different court date or in writing.

For more information, visit

legalaid.on.ca

