

Frequently Asked Questions

Why do I need to provide the last 6 weeks of my pay stubs?

The Moderate Means program is an income qualifying program. This means that your income must fall within our guidelines to qualify for services through this program. Therefore we need to verify your income qualifies you for the Moderate Means program. We do this by using your last 6 weeks of pay stubs.

What if I don't have the last 6 weeks of my pay stubs?

If you do not have the last 6 weeks of your pay stubs please contact the Moderate Means program to find out if there is other ways the program can verify your income.

Who qualifies as a dependant?

Minor children (18 years old and under), your spouse and your parents may qualify as dependants. For any of them to qualify they must be residing with you and may not be receiving any income in their own right. Any children who live with you less than 70% of the time do not qualify as dependants.

Is the child/spousal support I pay or receive factored into my qualifying income?

Yes. If you are paying child support we will subtract the amount you pay from your gross monthly income before the guidelines are applied to determine eligibility. If you are receiving child support the amount you are receiving may not be added to your gross monthly income.

What if I don't have all of the information about the opposing party that the application asks for?

We understand that not all of this information may be available to you. We do ask that you fill out the section to the best of your ability, if you are not able to provide all of the information for this section that will be okay.

What is the gross monthly income?

This is the income you earn before taxes are taken out.

What is a co-signer?

A co-signer is someone (possibly a friend or family member) who has agreed to pay for the Moderate Means attorney fees if the applicant is unable to do so. If you are using the co-signer option please fill out all co-signer sections of the application.

When a person applies for the program, how long is it before they see an attorney?

Once the application has been submitted along with the processing fee & pay stubs to the Contra Costa County Bar Association via mail, fax, or in-person, the application evaluation takes no longer than two days. If the applicant qualifies for the Moderate Means Program, the applicant is sent the attorney's contact information in the mail with in a couple of weeks. Thereafter, the applicant must contact the attorney on his/her own and set up the free consultation. Generally, the process takes several weeks from the time the application is received to the time the qualified applicant meets with the attorney.

Where do I send my completed application?

Please send your completed application to: Moderate Means Program; Contra Costa County Bar Association; 704 Main Street; Martinez, CA 94553 or Fax it to: (925) 686 – 9867