

Virginia Family Law Coalition

Calculating Child Support Obligations in Complex Cases: Worksheet Examples

Larry Diehl, Esq.

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Complex Custody Arrangements

Three arrangements cover most complex custody arrangements existing beyond the simple sole, shared, and split custody arrangements currently addressed in the guidelines:

1. Mixed Shared Custody
2. Sole and Shared Custody
3. Split and Shared Custody

1. Mixed Shared Custody

All of the children in a family are subject to shared custody arrangements, but the number of days varies among the children.

Mixed Shared Custody: Proposed Statutory Language

New subsection § 20-108.2(G)(4):

4. Multiple shared custody support.

In cases with different shared custody arrangements for two or more minor children of the parties, the procedures in subdivision G 3 as well as the definitions in § 20-108.2 shall apply except that one shared guideline calculation shall be used to determine the amount of child support owed by one parent to the other by:

Mixed Shared Custody: Proposed Statutory Language

- (a) Adding the total number of days for each child of the parties for each parent and dividing that total number of days by the number of children.
- (b) Using the average number of shared custody days determined in subsection (a) above for each parent to determine the child support paid in accordance with the provisions of subdivision G 3 using the total number of children.

Mixed Shared Custody Guideline Worksheet

Guideline Calculation		Mother	Father
A. Income			
<i>A1</i>	Monthly Gross Income	1	8
<i>A2</i>	Adjustments for Spousal Support	2	9
<i>A3</i>	# of other children residing with the party	3	10
<i>A4</i>	Mother <input type="text"/> Father <input type="text"/>	4	11
<i>A5</i>	Other child support obligations	5	12
<i>A6</i>	Combined Monthly Available Gross Income	6	13
<i>A7</i>	Percentage of combined gross income	7	14
B. Shared Child Support Needs		Mother	Father
<i>B1</i>	Number of children	15	2
<i>B2</i>	Basic child support obligation	16	30
<i>B3</i>	1.4 Multiplier applied to line above	17	31
<i>B4</i>	Total # of days each year parent has custody of child 1	18	32
<i>B5</i>	Total # of days each year parent has custody of child 2	19	33
<i>B6</i>	Total # of days each year parent has custody of child 3	20	34
<i>B7</i>	Total # of days each year parent has custody of child 4	21	35
<i>B8</i>	Total # of days each year parent has custody of child 5	22	36
<i>B9</i>	Total # of days each year parent has custody of child 6	23	37
<i>B10</i>	Total # of Days each year parent has with children	24	38
<i>B11</i>	Average # of days each year parent has custody of children	25	39
<i>B12</i>	Each parent's custody share	26	40
<i>B13</i>	Shared Custody basic support obligation owed to the other parent	27	41
<i>B14</i>	Parent's Shared Custody Support Obligation owed to other parent	28	42
<i>B15</i>	Net Shared Custody Support Obligation	29	43
<i>B16</i>	Payable to Mother <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Father <input type="checkbox"/>		44

D.	Health Care/Work-Related Day Care Calculation						Mother			Father		
<i>D1</i>	Father's cost for health care coverage					<i>45</i>	\$0.00		<i>51</i>			
<i>D2</i>	Mother's cost for health care coverage					<i>46</i>			<i>52</i>	\$0.00		
<i>D3</i>	Father's cost for work-related daycare					<i>47</i>	\$0.00		<i>53</i>			
<i>D4</i>	Mother's cost for work-related daycare					<i>48</i>			<i>54</i>	\$0.00		
<i>D5</i>	Total = Line D1+Line D2+Line D3+Line D4					<i>49</i>	\$0.00		<i>55</i>	\$0.00		
<i>D6</i>	Parent's Obligation to the other (Line D*Line A5) needs work					<i>50</i>	\$0.00		<i>56</i>	\$0.00		
<i>D7</i>	Payable to	Mother	<input type="text"/>	Father	<input type="text"/>						<i>57</i>	\$0.00
E.	Combined Child Support Amount						Mother			Father		
<i>E1</i>	Parent owing the net basic monthly amount per shared custody					<i>58</i>	\$0.00		<i>61</i>	\$119.20		
<i>E2</i>	Parent owing the net health care/work-related day cost					<i>59</i>	\$0.00		<i>62</i>	\$0.00		
<i>E3</i>	Calculate: Add E1+E2 in each column then subtract the amounts					<i>60</i>	\$0.00	-	<i>63</i>	\$119.20	<i>64</i>	\$119.20
<i>E4</i>	Payable to	Mother	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Father	<input type="checkbox"/>							
F.	Adjustment for Parent's SSDI derived benefit paid to other parent											
<i>F1</i>	Mother's SSDI derivative benefit paid to the father					<i>65</i>	\$0.00		<i>67</i>			
<i>F2</i>	Father's SSDI derivative benefit paid to the mother					<i>66</i>			<i>68</i>	\$0.00		
<i>F3</i>	Net SSDI derivative benefit										<i>69</i>	\$0.00
<i>F4</i>	Credited to:	Mother	<input type="checkbox"/>	Father	<input type="checkbox"/>							
	Should the child support be recalculated due to the derivative benefit					<i>70</i>	<input type="text" value="No"/>					
G.	Total Adjusted Monthly Child Support Obligation											
<i>G1</i>	Parent owing the combined child support amount					<i>71</i>	NA		<i>73</i>	NA		
<i>G2</i>	Parent credited the derivative benefit					<i>72</i>	NA		<i>74</i>	NA		
<i>G3</i>	Payable to	Mother	<input type="text"/>	Father	<input type="text"/>						<i>75</i>	NA

2. Sole & Shared Custody

One parent has sole custody of one or more of the children, and the parents share custody of at least one other child.

Sole & Shared Custody: Proposed Statutory Language

New subsection § 20-108.2(G)(5):

5. Sole and shared custody support.

In cases where one parent has sole custody of one or more minor children of the parties and the parties share custody of one or more other minor children of the parties, the procedures in subdivisions G 1 and G 3 as well as the definitions in § 20-108.2 shall apply—except that one sole guideline calculation and one shared guideline calculation shall be used to determine the amount of child support owed by one parent to the other by:

Sole & Shared Custody: Proposed Statutory Language

- (a) Calculating the sole custody child support obligation by:
- i. Calculating the per child monthly basic child custody support obligation by determining for the number of children the scheduled monthly basic child support obligation and dividing that amount by the number of children.
 - ii. Calculating the sole custody pro rata monthly basic child support obligation by multiplying the per child monthly basic child support obligation determined in subsection (i) above by the number of children subject to the sole custody support obligation.
 - iii. Applying the sole custody pro rata monthly basic child support obligation to the procedures in G 1.

Sole & Shared Custody: Proposed Statutory Language

- (b) Calculating the shared custody child support obligation by:
- i. Calculating the per child monthly basic child custody support obligation by determining for the number of children the scheduled monthly basic child support obligation and dividing that amount by the number of children.
 - ii. Calculating the shared custody pro rata monthly basic child support obligation by multiplying the per child monthly basic child support obligation as determined in subsection (i) above by the number of children subject to the shared custody support obligation.
 - iii. Applying the shared custody pro rata monthly basic child support obligation to the procedures in subdivision G 3, which includes using the shared custody multiplier.

Sole & Shared Custody: Proposed Statutory Language

- (c) Determining the total amount of child support owed by one parent to the other. Where one parent owes both the sole and shared obligations to the other parent, total both obligations calculated in subsections (a) and (b) above. Where one parent owes one of the calculations and the other parent owes the other calculation to the other parent, the parent owing the greater calculation to the other parent shall pay the difference between the calculations to the other parent.

Sole/Shared Guideline Worksheet												
Guideline Calculation						Mother			Father			
Number of Children						1	4					
A.	Income											
<i>A1</i>	Monthly Gross Income					2	\$1,257.00		8	\$1,570.00		
<i>A2</i>	Adjustments for Spousal Support					3	\$0.00		9			
<i>A3</i>	# of other children residing with the party											
<i>A4</i>		Mother	<input type="text"/>	Father	<input type="text"/>	4	\$0.00		10	\$0.00		
<i>A5</i>	Other child support obligations					5	\$0.00		11	\$0.00		
<i>A6</i>	Combined Monthly Available Gross Income					6	\$1,257.00	+	12	\$1,570.00	14	\$2,827.00
<i>A7</i>	Percentage of combined gross income					7	44%		13	56%	15	\$955.00
<i>A8</i>	Per child guideline schedule amount										16	\$238.75
B.	Sole Child Support Needs											
<i>B1</i>	Sole Custody: # of children					17			2			
<i>B2</i>	Sole Custody: pro rata basic child support obligation										20	\$477.50
<i>B3</i>	Sole Custody: child support obligation					18	\$212.32		19	\$265.18		
<i>B4</i>	Payable to:		<input type="text" value="Mother"/>								21	\$265.18
C.	Shared Child Support Needs											
<i>C1</i>	Shared Custody: # of children					22			2			
<i>C2</i>	Shared Custody: pro rata basic child support obligation					23	\$477.50		30	\$477.50		
<i>C3</i>	1.4 Multiplier to line above					24	\$668.50		31	\$668.50		
<i>C4</i>	Total # of days each year parent has custody of child(ren)					25	225		32	140		
<i>C5</i>	Each parent's custody share					26	62%		33	38%		
<i>C6</i>	Shared Custody basic support obligation owed to the other parent					27	\$256.41		34	\$412.09		
<i>C7</i>	Parent's Shared Custody Support Obligation owed to other parent					28	\$114.01		35	\$228.86		
<i>C8</i>	Net Shared Custody Support Obligation					29	\$114.01	-	36	\$228.86	37	\$114.85
<i>C9</i>	Payable to		Mother <input type="text" value="X"/>		Father <input type="text"/>							

D. Health Care/Work-Related Day Care Calculation					Mother		Father				
<i>D1</i>	Father's cost for health care coverage				<i>38</i>	\$0.00	<i>44</i>				
<i>D2</i>	Mother's cost for health care coverage				<i>39</i>		<i>45</i>	\$0.00			
<i>D3</i>	Father's cost for work-related daycare				<i>40</i>	\$0.00	<i>46</i>				
<i>D4</i>	Mother's cost for work-related daycare				<i>41</i>		<i>47</i>	\$0.00			
<i>D5</i>	Total = Line D1+Line D2+Line D3+Line D4				<i>42</i>	\$0.00	<i>48</i>	\$0.00			
<i>D6</i>	Parent's net obligation to the other (Line D*Line A7)				<i>43</i>	\$0.00	<i>49</i>	\$0.00			
<i>D7</i>	Payable to	Mother	<input type="text"/>	Father	<input type="text"/>				<i>50</i>	\$0.00	
E. Combined Child Support Amount					Mother		Father				
<i>E1</i>	Parent owing the sole custody support obligation				<i>51</i>	\$0.00	<i>55</i>	\$265.18			
<i>E2</i>	Parent owing the net shared custody support obligation				<i>52</i>	\$0.00	<i>56</i>	\$114.85			
<i>E3</i>	Parent owing the net health care/work-related day cost				<i>53</i>	\$0.00	<i>57</i>	\$0.00			
<i>E4</i>	Calculate: Add E1+E2+ E3 in each column then subtract the amounts				<i>54</i>	\$0.00	-	<i>58</i>	\$380.03	<i>58</i>	\$380.03
<i>E5</i>	Payable to	Mother	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Father	<input type="checkbox"/>						
F. Adjustment for Parent's SSDI derived benefit paid to other parent											
<i>F1</i>	Mother's SSDI derivative benefit paid to the father				<i>59</i>	\$0.00	<i>61</i>				
<i>F2</i>	Father's SSDI derivative benefit paid to the mother				<i>60</i>		<i>62</i>	\$0.00			
<i>F3</i>	Net SSDI derivative benefit								<i>63</i>	\$0.00	
<i>F4</i>	Credited to:	Mother	<input type="text"/>	Father	<input type="text"/>						
	Should the child support be recalculated due to the derivative benefit					<input type="text" value="No"/>					
G. Total Adjusted Monthly Child Support Obligation											
<i>G1</i>	Parent owing the combined child support amount				<i>64</i>	NA	<i>66</i>	NA			
<i>G2</i>	Parent credited the derivative benefit				<i>65</i>	NA	<i>67</i>	NA			
<i>G3</i>	Payable to	Mother	<input type="text"/>	Father	<input type="text"/>				<i>68</i>	NA	

3. Split & Shared Custody

The parents split custody of two or more children and share custody of at least one other child.

Split & Shared Custody: Proposed Statutory Language

New subsection § 20-108.2(G)(6):

6. Split and shared custody support.

In cases where the parents have split custody of two or more children and there is a shared custody arrangement with one or more other minor children of the parties, the procedures as set forth in subdivisions G 2 and G 3 as well as the definitions in § 20-108.2 shall apply to this subdivision—except that one split guideline calculation and one shared guideline calculation shall be used to calculate the amount of child support owed by one parent to the other by:

Split & Shared Custody: Proposed Statutory Language

(a) Calculating the split custody child support obligation by:

- i. Calculating the per child monthly basic child custody support obligation by determining for the number of children the scheduled monthly basic child support obligation and dividing that amount by the number of children.
- ii. Calculating the split custody pro rata monthly basic child support obligation for each parent as the noncustodial parent by multiplying the per child monthly basic child support obligation as determined in subsection (i) above by the number of children subject to the split custody support obligation for whom physical custody is with the other parent.
- iii. Applying the split custody pro rata monthly basic child support obligation for each parent to the procedures in subdivision G 2.

Split & Shared Custody: Proposed Statutory Language

- (b) Calculating the shared custody child support obligation by:
- i. Calculating the per child monthly basic child custody support obligation by determining for the number of children the scheduled monthly basic child support obligation and dividing that amount by the number of children.
 - ii. Calculating the shared custody pro rata monthly basic child support obligation by multiplying the per child monthly basic child support obligation as determined in subsection (i) above by the number of children subject to the shared custody support obligation.
 - iii. Applying the shared custody pro rata monthly basic child support obligation to the procedures in subdivision G 3, which includes using the shared custody multiplier.

Split & Shared Custody: Proposed Statutory Language

- (c) Determining the total amount of child support owed by one parent to the other. Where one parent owes both the split and shared obligations to the other parent, total both obligations calculated in subsections (a) and (b) above. Where one parent owes one of the calculations and the other parent owes the other calculation to the other parent, the parent owing the greater calculation to the other parent shall pay the difference between the calculations to the other parent.

Split/Shared Guideline Worksheet

Guideline Calculation		Mother	Father
Number of Children	1	5	
A. Income			
<i>A1</i> Monthly Gross Income	2	\$1,257.00	8 \$1,570.00
<i>A2</i> Adjustments for Spousal Support	3	\$0.00	9
<i>A3</i> # of other children residing with the party			
<i>A4</i> Mother <input type="text" value="0"/> Father <input type="text" value="0"/>	4	\$0.00	10 \$0.00
<i>A5</i> Other child support obligations	5	\$0.00	11 \$0.00
<i>A6</i> Combined Monthly Available Gross Income	6	\$1,257.00 +	12 \$1,570.00 <i>14</i> \$2,827.00
<i>A7</i> Percentage of combined gross income	7	44%	13 56% <i>15</i> \$1,051.00
<i>A8</i> Per child guideline schedule amount			16 \$210.20
B. Split Child Support Needs			
<i>B1</i> # of children Mother has sole custody of & Father owes support for:	17		23 1
<i>B2</i> # of children Father has sole custody of & Mother owes support for:	18	2	
<i>B3</i> Split Custody: Parent's pro rata basic child support obligation	19	\$420.40	25 \$210.20
<i>B4</i> Split Custody Child Support Obligation	20	\$186.93	26 \$116.74
<i>B5</i> Split Custody Net Support Obligation	21	\$186.93 -	27 \$116.74 <i>28</i> \$70.19
<i>B6</i> Payable to Mother <input type="text"/> Father <input type="text" value="X"/>			29 \$70.19
C. Shared Child Support Needs			
<i>C1</i> Shared Custody: # of children	30	2	
<i>C2</i> Shared Custody: Parent pro rata basic child support obligation	31	\$420.40	38 \$420.40
<i>C3</i> 1.4 Multiplier applied to the line above	32	\$588.56	39 \$588.56
<i>C4</i> Total # of days each year parent has custody of child(ren)	33	137	40 228
<i>C5</i> Each parent's custody share	34	38%	41 62%
<i>C6</i> Shared Custody basic support obligation owed to the other parent	35	\$367.65	42 \$220.91
<i>C7</i> Parent's Shared Custody Support Obligation owed to other parent	36	\$163.47	43 \$122.69
<i>C8</i> Net Shared Custody Support Obligation	37	\$163.47 -	44 \$122.69 <i>37</i> \$40.79
<i>C9</i> Payable to Mother <input type="text"/> Father <input type="text" value="X"/>			

D. Health Care/Work-Related Day Care Calculation		Mother		Father	
<i>D1</i>	Father's cost for health care coverage	<i>38</i>	\$0.00		
<i>D2</i>	Mother's cost for health care coverage			<i>42</i>	\$0.00
<i>D3</i>	Father's cost for work-related daycare	<i>39</i>	\$0.00		
<i>D4</i>	Mother's cost for work-related daycare			<i>43</i>	\$0.00
<i>D5</i>	Total = Line D1+Line D2+Line D3+Line D4	<i>40</i>	\$0.00	<i>44</i>	\$0.00
<i>D6</i>	Parent's net obligation to the other (Line D*Line A7)	<i>41</i>	\$0.00	<i>45</i>	\$0.00
<i>D7</i>	Payable to Mother <input type="text"/> Father <input type="text"/>				<i>46</i> \$0.00
E. Combined Child Support Amount		Mother		Father	
<i>E1</i>	Parent owing the basic monthly amount per split custody		\$70.19		\$0.00
<i>E2</i>	Parent owing the net basic monthly amount per shared custody	<i>47</i>	\$40.79	<i>50</i>	\$0.00
<i>E3</i>	Parent owing the net health care/work-related day cost	<i>48</i>	\$0.00	<i>51</i>	\$0.00
<i>E4</i>	Calculate: Add E1+E2 +E3 in each column then subtract the amounts	<i>49</i>	\$110.98	- <i>52</i>	\$0.00 <i>56</i> \$110.98
<i>E5</i>	Payable to Mother <input type="text"/> Father <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
F. Adjustment for Parent's SSDI derived benefit paid to other parent		Mother		Father	
<i>F1</i>	Mother's SSDI derivative benefit paid to the father	<i>53</i>	\$0.00		
<i>F2</i>	Father's SSDI derivative benefit paid to the mother			<i>54</i>	\$0.00
<i>F3</i>	Net SSDI derivative benefit				<i>55</i> \$0.00
<i>F4</i>	Credited to: Mother <input type="text"/> Father <input type="text"/>				
	Should the child support be recalculated due to the derivative benefit		<input type="text" value="No"/>		
G. Total Adjusted Monthly Child Support Obligation		Mother		Father	
<i>G1</i>	Parent owing the combined child support amount	<i>56</i>	NA	<i>58</i>	NA
<i>G2</i>	Parent credited the derivative benefit	<i>57</i>	NA	<i>59</i>	NA
<i>G3</i>	Payable to Mother <input type="text"/> Father <input type="text"/>				<i>60</i> NA

Questions?

A photograph of a piece of lined paper with the word "Questions?" written in a cursive, handwritten style in black ink. A black marker is visible in the bottom right corner, with its tip pointing towards the end of the word. A thick, curved black line is drawn underneath the word, starting from the left and ending near the marker.