

HUSKY Tips

Child support cooperation requirements and HUSKY

The HUSKY application asks about both parents of a child, even if both parents do not live with the child. This section of the application is one that has been reported to deter families from applying, but outreach workers should encourage families to give this information so that adults can also be screened for HUSKY A. **In HUSKY B, information about the non-custodial parent is not required.**

The Department of Social Services (DSS) which runs HUSKY, is required to make sure that non-custodial parents provide medical insurance or financial support for the cost of HUSKY A coverage for their HUSKY A eligible children, if they can.

A child will not be denied HUSKY A (Medicaid for children) because his or her parent does not give information about the non-custodial parent. However, if a parent living with a child also applies for HUSKY for him/herself, the parent may not be eligible if s/he refuses to provide information, unless s/he has “good cause”* for “non-cooperation.” A chart on the client cooperation standard is attached.

Some parents are reluctant to talk about the non-custodial parent. A parent should tell DSS if there is a reason why s/he cannot give information about a non-custodial parent. “Good cause” reasons may include fear of violence or lack of information about the other parent. DSS will talk to the applicant parent and decide whether s/he is cooperating. Even if DSS finds that a parent does not have good cause for “non-cooperation” **his or her child will not be denied HUSKY.** If DSS finds that a parent has cooperated or has a good cause reason not to, the parent may also be eligible.

A child with private health insurance through a custodial or non-custodial parent can still get HUSKY A. The commercial insurance would be the “primary insurance” and HUSKY A would be the secondary plan and the “payor of last resort” **. Having HUSKY as a secondary insurance entitles families to more comprehensive benefits. **Families with HUSKY A as a secondary insurance should *not* have co-payments for services.**



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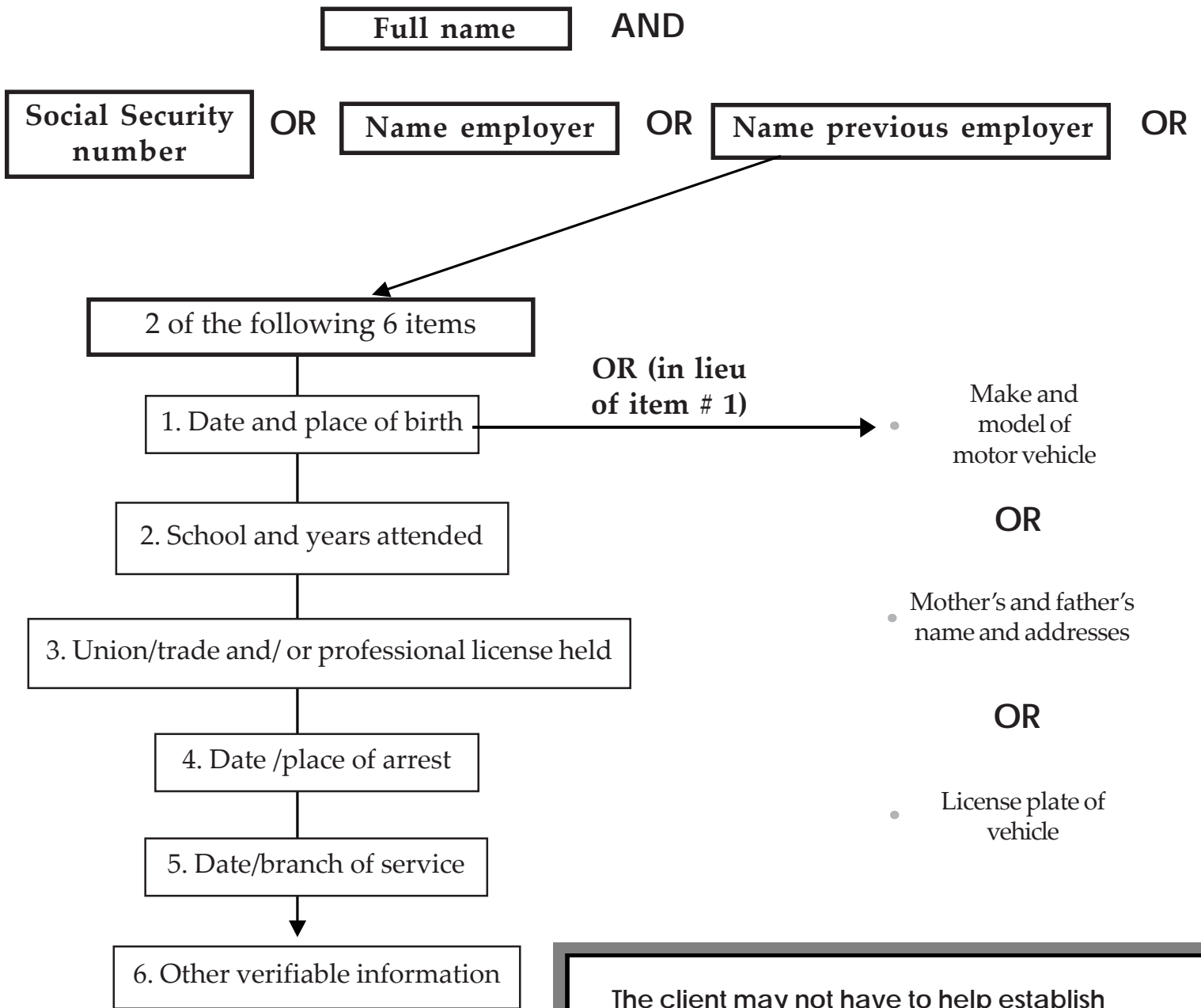
53 Oak Street, Suite 15
Hartford CT 06106
860.548.1661
www.ctkidslink.org

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- * For more information about “good cause” and child support cooperation requirements, contact Legal Services at (800) 453-3320
 - ** For more information about “primary and secondary insurance”, call HUSKY Infoline at 1-877-CT-HUSKY (1-877-284-8759)

(over)

9/07

The DSS Child Support "Client Cooperation Standard" has been met if the client provides the following information about the non-custodial parent:



The client may not have to help establish paternity or collect child support if:

- Doing so would put the client or child in danger,
- The client does not have accurate information because the other parent lied,
- There are circumstances beyond the client's control, such as mental impairment,
- The client has another good faith reason for not having the information.