



UTAH STATE COURTS

Navigating the Divorce Process During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Filing for a Divorce During COVID-19:

If you are starting or currently in the divorce process visit the [Utah State Courts Divorce Website](#). The petitioner may use the [Online Court Assistance Program \(OCAP\)](#) to prepare the petition and other documents to file, including [Fee Waivers](#) for divorce related fees. If either party has a lawyer, the lawyer will prepare the documents required of that party. Parties may [file documents by email](#). If parties wish to file in person, they should call their district court where [they are filing the forms](#) first.

If individuals are not married but have children together, they may ask the courts for orders regarding [custody/parentage](#). To understand the different types of custody agreements, visit the [Utah State Courts child custody website](#).

Divorce Education Classes for Adults:

Both parties of the divorce need to individually complete [Mandatory Education in Divorce and Temporary Separation Classes](#). If the parties have minor children together, they must complete a Divorce Orientation class and a Divorce Education class before the divorce will be granted. The divorce courses are available [online](#) and cost \$30 for the orientation course and \$35 for the education course.

If your income has been impacted negatively by COVID-19, you may apply to waive fees for the classes. To apply for a fee waiver, complete and submit the [Motion to Waive Fee and Statement Supporting Motion](#) and [Order on Motion to Waive Fees](#) documents. Fee waiver documentation must be submitted and processed prior to registering/paying for the course and will not be used to process refunds. You may file the documents and supporting documentation by [email](#).

Support for Children:

Divorce can be a source of anxiety for children, and even more stressful in circumstances where the buffers to their anxieties, such as social relationships, are suddenly limited. They may be feeling deeply upset due to the drastic changes the pandemic has made to their social lives while having to cope with the difficulties of their parents' divorce. To support children facing divorce during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Utah State Courts created a [Divorce Education for Children Virtual Class](#) designed for children ages 9-12 to watch with the supervision of a parent or trusted adult.

Support and Resource Links:

2-1-1 Utah (statewide): Dial 2-1-1 www.211utah.org

Utah Courts' Self-Help Center (statewide): email - selfhelp@utcourts.gov, text - 801-742-1898
call toll free- 888-683-0009 or <https://www.utcourts.gov/selfhelp/contact/>

Utah Legal Services (statewide): 801-328-8891 or <https://www.utahlegalservices.org/>

Utah Domestic Violence Coalition Hotline (statewide): 1-800-897-5465 or <https://www.udvc.org/>

Legal Aid Society of Salt Lake: 801-238-7171 or <https://www.legalaidsocietyofsaltlake.org/divorce-custody>

