

Child Care Expenses and Variance Guide

by Alft & Wilson Publishing – Iowa Support Master

Child(ren) in child care scenario.

Exceptions: If the parties have joint (equally shared) physical care, go no further. A variance will not be granted. If the NCP's adjusted net monthly income is in the low-income range, Area A of the schedule, a variance request will not be granted. See Rule 9.11A(7).

1. How many children are in child care? _____

If more than one, you will need to prepare a step-down worksheet. If only one, and a variance will be granted, you need not prepare a step-down worksheet. This is because Form 1 will display the child support amount and the variance amount, as should the court's order. See Section III.b. of Form 1)

a. Oldest child's name: _____

b. Month/Year the child will no longer be in child care: _____

c. Younger child's name: _____

d. Month/Year the child will no longer be in child care: _____

2. Cost of child care per child per month: \$_____

3. Do you anticipate this cost going up or down (explain, ie. more than 1 child in child care)?

Rules:

- A. You may not indicate the cost of child care as a deduction to arrive at the net income of the CP if you seek a variance. If the variance request is denied, you may then deduct the cost. Prepare two sets of Form 1.
- B. The court may consider each parent's proportional share of income in fixing the amount of the variance. (says "may"). The amount of the child care expense variance allowed should not exceed the NCP's proportional share. (Says "should not". doesn't say shall not).