

§3311. Definitions

As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings. [PL 2009, c. 95, §83 (NEW); PL 2009, c. 95, §87 (AFF).]

1. Application. "Application" means a request under the Convention by an obligee or obligor, or on behalf of a child, made through a central authority for assistance from another central authority. [PL 2009, c. 95, §83 (NEW); PL 2009, c. 95, §87 (AFF).]

2. Central authority. "Central authority" means the entity designated by the United States or a foreign country described in section 2802, subsection 3-A to perform the functions specified in the Convention. [PL 2009, c. 95, §83 (NEW); PL 2009, c. 95, §87 (AFF).]

3. Convention support order. "Convention support order" means a support order of a tribunal of a foreign country described in section 2802, subsection 3-A. [PL 2009, c. 95, §83 (NEW); PL 2009, c. 95, §87 (AFF).]

4. Direct request. "Direct request" means a petition filed by an individual in a tribunal of this State in a proceeding involving an obligee, obligor or child residing outside the United States. [PL 2009, c. 95, §83 (NEW); PL 2009, c. 95, §87 (AFF).]

4-A. Foreign central authority. "Foreign central authority" means the entity designated by a foreign country as defined in section 2802, subsection 3-A to perform the functions specified in the Convention. [PL 2015, c. 186, §9 (NEW).]

5. Foreign support agreement. "Foreign support agreement" means an agreement for support in a record that:

- A. Is enforceable as a support order in the country of origin; [PL 2009, c. 95, §83 (NEW); PL 2009, c. 95, §87 (AFF).]
- B. Has been formally drawn up or registered as an authentic instrument by a foreign tribunal or authenticated by or concluded, registered or filed with a foreign tribunal; and [PL 2009, c. 95, §83 (NEW); PL 2009, c. 95, §87 (AFF).]
- C. May be reviewed and modified by a foreign tribunal. [PL 2009, c. 95, §83 (NEW); PL 2009, c. 95, §87 (AFF).]

"Foreign support agreement" includes a maintenance arrangement or authentic instrument under the Convention. [PL 2009, c. 95, §83 (NEW); PL 2009, c. 95, §87 (AFF).]

6. United States central authority. "United States central authority" means the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. [PL 2009, c. 95, §83 (NEW); PL 2009, c. 95, §87 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2009, c. 95, §83 (NEW). PL 2009, c. 95, §87 (AFF). PL 2015, c. 186, §9 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Special Session of the 132nd Maine Legislature and is current through October 1, 2025. The text

is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.
--