

Washington State Bar Association Moderate Means Program

Lawyers Helping the People of Washington

A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LAW SCHOOLS OF
Gonzaga University, Seattle University, and the University of Washington



Legal Resources for Low-Income and Moderate-Income People

The following contains a list of programs throughout the state of Washington that may be able to assist you with your legal needs. Programs listed may charge a fee for services. Some programs may no longer be operational.

Use with Caution: This information, related materials, links, and resources for is provided for informative purposes only. We do not warrant the information provided with regard to accuracy or any other purpose. No endorsement is intended, nor does the information contained herein constitute legal advice or legal opinions. You are responsible for ensuring your own legal and ethical compliance. Information on this page does not modify the rules, statutes, and regulations set by the federal government, state legislature, Washington Supreme Court, or the Bylaws and policies of the WSBA, or confer any additional rights.

GENERAL RESOURCES

CLEAR

Coordinated Legal Education Advice & Referral, run by the NW Justice Project

- Phone: 1-888-201-1014 (Mon-Fri, 9:15AM – 12:30PM)
- Online application: nwjustice.org/clear-online
- Must be under 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

CLEAR Senior

- 60 years old or over
- Phone: 1-888-387-7111 (Mon-Fri, 9:15AM – 12:30PM)
- No income limits

CLEAR Crime Victim (CLEAR CV)

- For clients who have a civil legal issue caused by a crime
- Crimes include DV, child abuse, elder abuse, sexual assault, hate crimes, trafficking, ID theft, kidnapping, stalking, criminal harassment, etc.
- Only crime-victim service providers can make referrals, such as a DV advocate.
- No income limits

Self-help legal info

- www.washingtonlawhelp.org (info in 23 languages other than English)
- <https://legalvoice.org/resources/> (family law, DV, consumer & debt, etc.)
- Solid-ground.org (Information and resources for tenants and homeowners)

Court forms

- www.courts.wa.gov/forms

County Bar Associations

- <http://www.wsba.org/Legal-Community/County-Bar-Associations>

211: Statewide information in local community resources of all types.

- Call 211 or visit www.win211.org.

Volunteer Legal Programs

- VLP provides legal representation for low-income clients. Most clients are referred to VLP from CLEAR.
- King County: <https://www.kcba.org/?pg=Free-Legal-Assistance>

Lawyer Referral Service: A LRS connects clients with attorneys who charge regular rates.

- King County: <https://www.kcba.org/?pg=Hire-a-Lawyer>. For more info, email LRS@KCBA.org or call (206) 267- 7010 between 8:30AM and 4:30PM Monday through Friday
- Clark County: <http://www.ccbawashington.org/>. For more info, call (360) 695-5975.
- Kitsap County Bar Association: www.kitsapbay.org/directory
- Mason County: <http://masoncountybarassociation.com/>.
- Pierce County Bar Lawyer Referral Service: tpcba.com/?pg=lawyer-referral-service (253-383-3432)

- Snohomish County: <http://www.snobar.org/LRS/lrsform.html>, or call (425) 388-3018.
- Southwest Washington Lawyer Referral Service: 360-695-0599 (Cowlitz, Skamania, Wahkiakum, Lewis)
- Spokane County: <http://www.spokanebar.org/online-referral-service>
- Tacoma-Pierce County: <https://www.tpcbba.com/public/lawyer-referral-service/>, or call (253) 383-3432.
- Thurston County: <http://thurstoncountybar.com/attorneys/>.
- San Juan County: Send an email to sjcba@rockisland.com.

FAMILY LAW RESOURCES

Courthouse facilitators per county:

- http://www.courts.wa.gov/court_dir/?fa=court_dir.facils
- Information on fees & costs, how courthouse facilitators can help, etc. at http://www.courts.wa.gov/committee/?fa=committee.home&committee_id=108

Family Law Clinics:

- King County:
 - <http://www.kcba.org/pbs/NLC.aspx>. To make an appointment, call (206) 267-7070 Tuesday through Thursday from 9AM to 12PM.
 - Clients can get a free 30-minute consultation with a lawyer who will offer legal advice (on civil issues), help with paperwork, and provide resources. A lawyer might also refer a client to Volunteer Legal Services for legal representation.
 - Eastside Legal Assistance: <https://elap.org/legal-clinics>
- Snohomish County: <https://snocolegal.org/family-law/>
- Thurston County: <https://tcvls.org/>
- Clark County: <https://ccvlp.org/about/programs/>
- Tacoma: <http://www.tacomaprobono.org/>
- Spokane: Self Help Family Law Center: <https://familylaw.spofi.org/>

Child support calculator:

- <http://www.dshs.wa.gov/dcs/> : This is the 'official', government-run calculator
- <https://www.alllaw.com/calculators/childsupport/washington>: An alternative calculator
- <https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/resource/understanding-the-wa-state-child-support-schedule>: Offers detailed information on how child support is calculated

Domestic Violence Advocates

Statewide:

- <https://www.wscadv.org>
- DV Hotline: 1-800-562-6025

King County:

- DAWN –South King County: <https://www.dawnrising.org/>
- LifeWire-Eastside and North King County: <https://www.lifewire.org/>
- Eastside Legal Assistance: <https://elap.org/legal-clinics/>

Grays Harbor County:

- Domestic Violence Center of Grays Harbor: (360) 538-0733 or (800) 818-2194

Pierce County:

- Crystal Judson Family Justice Center: <https://www.familyjusticecenter.us>
- YWCA-Pierce County: 24/7 hotline- 253-383-2593

Spokane County:

- YWCA-Spokane County: <https://ywcaspokane.org/programs/help-with-domestic-violence>
- Other resources: <https://covid.srhd.org/topics/domestic-violence-resources/resources>

Snohomish County:

- Resources: <https://snohomishcountywa.gov/434/Helpful-Resources>

Skagit County:

- Skagit Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services: <https://www.skagitdvsas.org/>

Whatcom County:

- Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Services of Whatcom County: <https://www.dvsas.org/>

Affordable Legal Services in Family Law by a Legal Technician

A limited license legal technician, also known as a legal technician or LLLT, is licensed by the Washington Supreme Court to advise and assist people going through divorce, child custody, and other family law matters in Washington. While they are not attorneys, they can provide limited legal services in family law by consulting with and advising clients, completing and filing necessary court documents, and assisting pro se clients at certain types of hearings and settlement conferences.

They also help with court scheduling and support clients in navigating the legal system. LLLTs are well trained, experienced, and competent licensed legal professionals who may be able to provide you with the legal help you need. If you cannot afford a lawyer, a legal technician might be an affordable option for your family law matter.

Search the WSBA legal directory for a LLLT near you:

<https://www.mywsba.org/personifyebusiness/LegalDirectory.aspx>

VETERANS

- **WA Attorney General Office: Legal Assistance for Veterans and Military Personnel**
 - <http://www.atg.wa.gov/legal-assistance-veterans-military-personnel>
 - Includes an extensive list of legal services/information resources
- **National Veterans Legal Services Program**
 - <https://www.nvlsp.org/what-we-do/lawyers-serving-warriors/>
 - Offers pro bono legal help to veterans attempting to file disability claims.
- **The Veterans Consortium—Pro Bono Program**
 - <https://www.vetsprobono.org/apply/>
 - Offers assistance with filing for discharge upgrades and filing appeals to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veteran Claims.

CONSUMER PROTECTION RESOURCES

Debt & CH 7 bankruptcy

- King County: Call (206) 461-3200 to be screened for eligibility and get help. Services include: (1) direct representation and (2) a debt education workshop. To sign up for the debt education workshop, call (206) 267-7095. <http://www.kcba.org/pbs/NLC.aspx>

Debt & bankruptcy legal clinic:

- King County: To make an appointment, call (206) 267-7070 Tuesday through Thursday from 9AM to 12PM. <http://www.kcba.org/pbs/NLC.aspx>

Self-help info on bankruptcy:

- <http://www.washington-bankruptcy.com/index.html>

Court forms: bankruptcy & garnishment

- <http://www.courts.wa.gov/forms/?fa=forms.contribute&formID=4>

Northwest Consumer Law Center

- Sliding scale fee starting at \$125/hr.
- Flat rates for bankruptcies depending on client income.
- Will also consider student loan issues and auto-related issues.
- Primarily in western WA.
- Intake email: admin@nwclc.org
- Client intake number: 206-805-1722
- Toll-free number: 1-888-805-1722

Non-profit organizations & small businesses:

Washington Attorney Assisting Community Organizations at www.waaco.org

Better Business Bureau

- BBB serving Alaska, Central Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Western Wyoming
 - <https://www.bbb.org/local-bbb/bbb-great-west-pacific>
 - Phone: (206) 431-2222

HOUSING LAW RESOURCES

Washington Law Help Rental and Eviction Assistance- Statewide

- <https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/resource/eviction>

Northwest Justice Project Eviction Defense Screening Line

- 855-657-8387 or apply on-line at <https://nwjustice.org/apply-online>
- For tenants below 245% of the federal poverty level

Housing Justice Project (for low-income tenants facing eviction)

- King County:
 - Can help tenants respond to eviction summons with a Notice of Appearance.
 - Provide representation to low-income tenants facing eviction who have a filed eviction case.
 - Note that they can only provide an attorney if your case is filed with the court.
 - <https://www.kcba.org/?pg=Housing-Justice-Project>
 - Must be below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- Seattle
 - Tenant Resource Line: 206-580-0762
 - Right to counsel for anyone below 80% of the Area Median Income (approx. 500% FPL)
- Snohomish County:
 - <https://snocolegal.org/legal-help/#hjp>
- Pierce County:
 - <https://tacomaprobono.org/hjp/>

Tenant's Union Hotline

- Hotline number: 1-206-723-0500.
- Free advice by phone on a wide range of housing and LL/T issues.

County Housing Resources

- Call 211 or go to www.win211.org

- Conduct an internet search for “housing resources,” “Community Action Program,” or “Salvation Army” in the client’s county.

NJP Foreclosure Prevention Unit: 1-800-606-4819

- Call if you have a sale scheduled within two weeks, a legal dispute with your loan servicer, or any foreclosure-related legal issue.
- They accept people with incomes up to 400% of the federal poverty line.

Housing Counseling (HUD) Agency: 1-877-894-HOME (4663)

- Free counseling on housing issues
- Call if you need assistance with applying for loan modification or finding resources for foreclosure prevention.