

Family Law Service

Victoria Legal Aid

Can I get an interpreter?

Yes. Ask us for an interpreter in your language.

You can also ring the [Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450](#) and ask to be put through to Victoria Legal Aid.

Where can I get more legal information?

More information is on our website at www.legalaid.vic.gov.au

We also have a range of free booklets in English and other languages. You can get the booklets on our website or at any Victoria Legal Aid office.

About our services

We can help you with criminal matters, family breakdown, family violence, child support, immigration, social security, mental health, discrimination, guardianship and administration, tenancy, debt and traffic offences.

Our free legal services include:

- information over the phone
- seminars and workshops
- legal advice across Victoria, including most courts and tribunals.

If you want ongoing help from a lawyer, you can apply for a grant of legal assistance. Getting a grant will depend on your financial situation and your legal problem. You can use a grant to:

- pay a lawyer to help reach agreement or speak for you in court
- go to our family dispute resolution service.

Call us to find out how we can help you.

Our Legal Information Service

Open Monday to Friday, 8.45 am to 5.15 pm

Telephone 9269 0120 or country callers 1800 677 402



Contact us for free information about the law and how we can help you.

You can speak to someone in English or other languages.

Our offices

Open Monday to Friday, 8.45 am to 5.15 pm

Bairnsdale	5153 1975
Ballarat	5329 6222
Bendigo	5448 2333
	Toll free 1800 254 500
Broadmeadows	9302 8777
Dandenong	9767 7111
Frankston	9784 5222
Geelong	5226 5666
	Toll free 1800 196 200
Horsham	5381 6000
	Toll free 1800 177 638
Melbourne	9269 0120
Morwell	5134 8055
Preston	9416 6444
Ringwood	9259 5444
Shepparton	5823 6200
Sunshine	9300 5333
Warrnambool	5559 7222

All offices are accessible to people with a disability.

Our public law library

Open Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm
350 Queen Street, Melbourne

Our website

www.legalaid.vic.gov.au

What is the Family Law Service?

The Family Law Service has experienced lawyers who help adults and children with issues about family law. It is part of Victoria Legal Aid.

How can the Family Law Service help me?

We can help you with:

- divorce and separation
- parenting disputes
- intervention orders
- other family law issues, including injunctions, location and recovery orders, and spousal maintenance.

Family lawyers are located at our Melbourne and regional offices. The Melbourne office also has independent children's lawyers and child support lawyers.

How can I get legal advice?

You can call us for free legal information from 9 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday, on 9269 0120 or 1800 677 402 (country callers).

We also have free legal advice clinics. To find out about the clinic nearest you and the times they are open, please contact us. You will need to make an appointment for some clinics.

If your matter is urgent, or you cannot get to an office, you should be able to talk to a lawyer over the phone.

It is always better to see a lawyer before you go to court.

What do I bring when I see a lawyer?

To help us give the best advice, you should bring:

- any letters or court documents about your legal problem
- your Centrelink or health care card, if you are not working
- your three most recent payslips, if you are working
- bank statements for the last three months.

How do I get help from prison?

Lawyers from the Melbourne office regularly visit the Dame Phyllis Frost Centre and Port Phillip Prison. We also visit a number of prisons in regional centres and can talk to you through a video link.

How can I get help at court?

We have duty lawyers at:

- the Family Court at Melbourne
- the Federal Magistrates Court at Dandenong and Melbourne
- the Melbourne Magistrates' Court
- a number of other metropolitan and regional courts.

Duty lawyers can give you free legal advice on the day of your court hearing if you do not have a lawyer.

Our family lawyers may be able to:

- give you free legal advice
- speak to the other party or their lawyer for you
- speak for you in court.

Family Law Service Victoria Legal Aid

How do I get money to pay for a lawyer?

To get money to pay for a lawyer you need to apply for a grant of legal assistance. The grant money may cover some or all of your legal costs.

Getting a grant will depend on your financial situation and your legal problem. You may get a lawyer from the Family Law Service or a private law firm.

Call us to find out how we can help you to apply for a grant.

How can I get help to represent myself at court?

Victoria Legal Aid has free workshops to help you apply for a divorce. To register for a workshop call us on 9269 0223.

We respect your privacy

We will not give your personal information to anyone, unless the law says otherwise.

We respect the confidentiality of all our clients. Therefore, if we have already helped someone involved in your case, we may only be able to give you general information. This is called a conflict of interest. However, we may be able to refer you to another lawyer or organisation.