

# Victoria Legal Aid

Central Highlands office

📍 Ballarat 5329 6222  
or 1800 081 719

Do you need legal help?  
Victoria Legal Aid can help you



BAR-CO-ENG-0109

## Victoria Legal Aid : Central Highlands office

Open Monday to Friday, 8.45 am to 5.15 pm

Area A, Level 1, 75 Victoria St  
Ballarat VIC 3350  
(PO Box 1615 Bakery Hill 3354)

**Tel:** 5329 6222 or 1800 081 719

**Fax:** 5329 6200

**Email:** ballarat@vla.vic.gov.au  
DX 214299 Ballarat VIC

Our office is accessible to people with a disability.



## 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 public law library

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

## Our website

[www.legalaid.vic.gov.au](http://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au)

## 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?

We 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.

More information is also on our website at [www.legalaid.vic.gov.au](http://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au)

## About our services

We have 15 offices in Victoria, which are open Monday to Friday, 8.45 am to 5.15 pm.

Victoria Legal Aid 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.

We also give grants of legal assistance to people who can not afford a lawyer.

**Call us to find out how we can help you.**

## Victoria Legal Aid's Central Highlands office

Our office in Ballarat can help people in the Central Highlands region with a range of legal problems.

### Free legal advice

We have lawyers who can talk to you about how the law applies to your legal problem and what you may be able to do about it.

Our lawyers can help you with:

- criminal charges
- family law matters
- child support matters
- general legal advice and information.

Call us on 5329 6222 or 1800 081 719 to make an appointment or drop in to our office at 75 Victoria St, Ballarat.

We also visit other towns in the area. You can get free legal advice at our outreach services in Maryborough and Daylesford.

Call us on 5329 6222 or 1800 081 719 to make an appointment at these towns.

If your matter is urgent or you cannot easily get to the office, we may be able to give you legal advice over the phone.

When you come to your appointment, please bring:

- all paperwork
- any records of interviews with police
- pay slips and/or Health Care Card
- bank statements.

**If you are not able to keep the appointment please give us 24 hours notice.**

### Lawyers at court

**It is important that you get legal advice before you go to court.**

However, if you do not have a lawyer, we have lawyers at many courts and tribunals across Victoria. These 'duty lawyers' help people who have a court hearing on the day. They may be able to speak for you in court.

We have duty lawyers at the Magistrates' Court, the Children's Court and the Federal Magistrates Court at:

- Ballarat
- Maryborough
- Bacchus Marsh.

Many people want to see the duty lawyer, so we may not be able to help everyone. We have to help some people first.

This includes:

- serious cases, including people in jail or people at risk of going into jail
- cases involving children
- people who cannot afford legal help
- people who could not get legal advice before going to court.

Ask staff at the court or tribunal if a duty lawyer is available.

### Legal representation

If you need ongoing help from a lawyer, we can help you if you have a grant of legal assistance. We can also support you if you are going to the Mental Health Review Board.

### Grants of legal assistance

A grant of legal assistance is money used to pay a Victoria Legal Aid lawyer or a private lawyer to help you with your legal problem. A lawyer can:

- give you legal advice
- help you reach agreement
- prepare legal documents
- speak for you in court.

Getting a grant will depend on your financial situation and your legal problem. Grants are generally for criminal or family matters, but can be for some civil cases, such as discrimination, immigration, social security or mental health matters.

A grant is not always free. The amount you may have to pay depends on your financial situation.

[Call us to find out how we can help you.](#)

### 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 legal matter, we may only be able to give you general information. However, we may be able to refer you to another lawyer or organisation.