

## What is PALawHELP.org?

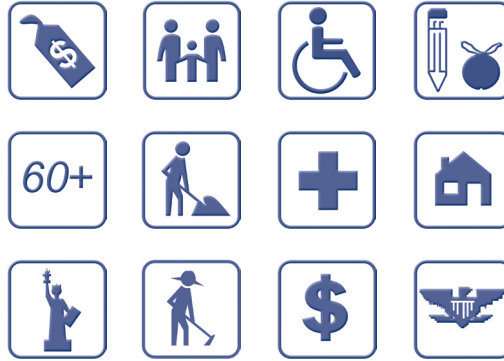
PALawHELP.org is a single, easy-to-navigate web site that contains current and accurate legal information that people experiencing legal problems need to have. Legal information provided on PALawHELP.org is geared to low-income people.

PALawHELP.org provides:

- Information on free legal aid programs and other legal service providers
- Information about your legal rights
- Legal education and self help information
- Information about and links to social services, government agencies, and courts throughout the state.

## Why was PALawHELP.org created?

PALawHELP.org was created to increase access to justice by providing information to the public about legal issues they face and by providing a place where legal service providers can be found for those who are unable to pay attorney fees but are in need of legal assistance.



**A guide to legal information and free civil legal services for low-income persons and seniors in Pennsylvania.**

For more information about PALawHELP.org, please contact the web site project manager:

palawhelp@palawhelp.org



## Your Online Guide to Legal Information and Legal Services in Pennsylvania

PALawHELP.org is a free service made possible through a grant from the Legal Services Corporation and the ongoing support of the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network, Pennsylvania IOLTA and the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, in conjunction with Neighborhood Legal Services Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

## **What is on the PaLawHELP.org Home Page?**

The PALawHELP.org home page contains your gateway to legal information and legal referrals. PALawHELP.org is part of a national network of statewide web sites proving this information across the country.

## **What areas of the law are covered in PALawHELP.org?**

PALawHELP.org provides information in the following legal subject areas:

<b>Consumer</b>	<b>Health Law</b>
<b>Children and Families</b>	<b>Housing and Shelter</b>
<b>Disability</b>	<b>Immigration</b>
<b>Education</b>	<b>Migrant Issues</b>
<b>Elder Law</b>	<b>Public Benefits</b>
<b>Employment</b>	<b>Veterans and Military</b>

## **How do I use the Legal Aid Providers link on the Home Page?**

The **Legal Aid Providers** link supplies information on legal service offices in Pennsylvania listed alphabetically by name.

The **By Office Location** tab in the directory provides a list of legal service offices located in each county of Pennsylvania. Select your county from the drop-down list and see a list of legal service providers with offices in the county.

The **By County Served** tab provides a list of legal service providers that serve the residents of the county. This includes providers that are available to serve people living in the county even if they don't have an office physically located in the county.

## **How do I find the legal information I need in PALawHELP.org?**

The PALawHELP.org homepage features an easy-to-use icon menu that allows users to find relevant information quickly and easily.

Clicking on one of the main topics listed on the PALawHELP.org home page takes you to a list of sub-topics that contain legal information.

Clicking on a listed sub-topic generates a list of the legal information resources available for that sub-topic.

## **What kind of information is provided in PALawHELP.org?**

The information provided includes **online resources** where you can file applications or get forms and **information resources** from a large variety of reliable sources.

Information resources listed are sorted into groups by the type of organization providing the information. These include information from the Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network, Government Agencies, Bar Associations and other legal organizations, and other private organizations.

Information provided contains all resources that are available in Pennsylvania. PALawHELP.org also provides a gateway to out-of-state legal information. You may also filter the legal information received to get

only information relevant to where you live. This can be done at any time by clicking the **Choose Another Location** link on the right side of the page and selecting your location by city or town, county or zip code.

## **What information do the Find Legal Assistance and Court Information tabs provide?**

The page containing the list of legal information resources also features a **Find Legal Assistance** tab and a **Court Information** tab at the top of the list.

These tabs present information about legal assistance providers available where you live or information about the courts serving your location. The legal assistance and court information provided relates specifically to the legal subtopic you previously selected.

Clicking on one of these tabs brings up a screen where you can identify your location by city or town, county or zip code.

If you had originally selected the **Find Legal Assistance** tab you will be presented with a list of legal assistance providers that serve your location. There will also be a link to information about the lawyer referral service that serves your location.

Clicking on the name of a legal service provider on the list yields a detailed profile of the provider selected. This includes contact information, eligibility requirements, languages spoken and the types of service available from the provider.

If you selected the **Court Information** tab you will be presented with a list of the courts that serve your location. This list contains active links to the court web sites where you can get detailed information about the operation of the courts.