

How can we help you?

What We Do

Legal Aid ACT offers **FREE** legal information, referral and advice to everyone in the ACT. We also provide ongoing legal assistance and representation to people who cannot afford a private lawyer.

We inform people of their legal rights and obligations to improve their access to the justice system. If you live outside the ACT we can put you in touch with a legal aid service in your area.

Free Legal Advice and Information

We provide free initial advice and information to people in the ACT on most issues. We will not ask any questions about your financial circumstances before providing this advice.

By phone

Phone the Legal Aid Helpline. The Legal Aid Helpline will not give legal advice over the phone. They can make you an appointment to speak to a lawyer face-to-face and provide basic legal information.

Legal Aid ACT

9.00am-4.00pm Monday-Friday

www.legalaidact.org.au

Phone: **1300 654 314**

By appointment

Phone Legal Aid ACT to make an appointment at our Civic office. Please bring any relevant documents with you to your appointment. For example, if you have a tenancy issue please bring a copy of your tenancy agreement.

Drop-In

Drop in to the Legal Aid office, 2 Allsop Street Canberra, and speak to someone about your problem.

What legal problems can Legal Aid ACT give advice on?

We provide advice on a range of different legal problems:

- Criminal law
- Debt
- Discrimination
- Employment law (for employees)
- Elder Abuse
- Family Law
- Family Violence
- Guardianship
- Immigration and refugee
- Neighbourhood disputes
- Small business matters
- Tenancy (for tenants)

We can give advice on legal problems outside of these areas. Please get in touch with us to find out how we can help you with your legal problem.

Our Specialist Services

Legal Aid ACT offers legal services and non-legal support services.

SPECIALIST LEGAL SERVICES

Family Violence and Personal Protection

Legal Aid assists people applying for or responding to family violence and personal protection orders. We do this through our Domestic Violence & Personal Protection Unit located at the Magistrates Court.

Legal Aid ACT

Domestic Violence and Personal Protection
Order Unit

www.legalaidact.org.au

Phone: **1300 654 314** or **(02) 6207 1874**

How can we help you?

Family Law duty lawyer

A free lawyer is on duty at the Family and Federal Magistrates Court to advise and assist people in family law matters. Monday to Friday, 10.00am to 3.00pm

Mental Health

Legal Aid can assist people who are detained under the *Mental Health Act 2015* (ACT). Our duty lawyers are at Canberra and Calvary Hospitals on a regular basis. Phone our Helpline for assistance.

Migration

Our migration clinic helps people with migration problems. There are appointments each Thursday. Phone the Helpline to make an appointment.

Migration Clinic - Legal Aid ACT

www.legalaidact.org.au

Phone: **1300 654 314**

Email: migration@legalaidact.org.au

Magistrates & Children's Court duty lawyer

A lawyer is on duty at the Magistrates and Children's Court to advise and assist people in criminal matters. You can speak to this lawyer for free.

Older Persons ACT Legal Service (OPALS)

OPALS is a specialist service within Legal Aid ACT which offers free and flexible legal assistance for issues that affect older people. For ongoing legal assistance and representation you may need to apply for a grant of legal assistance.

Older Persons ACT Legal Service (OPALS)

9.00am-4.00pm Monday-Friday

www.legalaidact.org.au/opals

Phone: (02) 6243 3436

Email: opals@legalaidact.org.au

Youth Law Centre

The Youth Law Centre is a free and confidential legal service for young people aged 12 to 25 years in the ACT.

Youth Law Centre

Free legal service for young people aged 12-25

www.legalaidact.org.au

Phone: **(02) 6173 5410**

Email: ylc@legalaidact.org.au

SUPPORT AND OTHER SERVICES

Liaison Officers

Our cultural liaison officers help people from a cultural and linguistically diverse background or who are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. Cultural Liaison Officers help people understand the legal advice they have been given and can provide support throughout the legal dispute.

Our Family Violence Officer can work with you to ensure that you are safe and supported while you are dealing with a legal problem.

Community Legal Education

We undertake community legal education work by running seminars and workshops. We hold free information sessions on a range of matters. These include drink driving, licensing issues and family law.

Ongoing Legal Assistance

If you need ongoing legal assistance or representation, you can apply for a grant of legal assistance.

For further information please see the factsheet 'Applying for a Grant of Assistance' available on the Legal Aid ACT website.