



Legal Counsel for
Youth and Children

Legal Needs Checklist

Young people who are at-risk of or currently experiencing homelessness may need access to civil legal services. The legal needs checklist below should be reviewed with young people to identify legal issues.

SAFETY

- Do you feel unsafe at home and want to talk about your options?
- Are you afraid someone is going to hurt you?
- Is someone harassing, stalking, or threatening you?
- Is Child Protective Services (CPS) involved with your family?

DEBTS, FEES, FINES

- Do you have unpaid court fines?
- Do you owe money to a hospital or doctor's office?
- Do you have tickets you can't pay?
- Are you getting calls from a collections agency?

IDENTITY

- Do you want to change your name and/or gender marker?
- Do you need to get your identifying documents?
- Do you think someone used your name or social security number without your permission?

CUSTODY

- Are you under 18 and want someone other than your parents to take care of you?
- Are you under 18 and want to take care of yourself?
- Are you under 18 and your parents disagree with where you want to live?
- Do you have children and need help with getting or keeping custody?

HOUSING

- Did you get an eviction notice or other notice from your landlord?
- Is your landlord not repairing your home? Are the conditions unsafe?
- Is your landlord harassing you or discriminating against you?
- Do you have an eviction record or outstanding rental debt?

IMMIGRATION

- Does your family have a safety plan if someone gets arrested by ICE?
- Have you ever had a removal or deportation order?
- Are you undocumented and want to know your immigration options?

EDUCATION

- Do you have a disability and need support in school?
- Do you need help enrolling in or getting to school?
- Are you having trouble accessing school because of tech issues?
- Were you unfairly suspended or expelled?

CRIMINAL ISSUES

- Do you think you have a warrant?
- Do you want to seal your criminal record?
- Do you have fines from a criminal case you can't pay?
- Were you denied housing or employment due to criminal history?

HEALTH

- Do you need access to medical or mental health care?
- Is someone threatening to commit you to inpatient treatment?
- Are you under 18 and want to consent to your own health care confidentially?

BENEFITS

- Do you need help paying for your basic needs like food and medical care?
- Do you have a disability and it keeps you from being able to meet your basic needs?
- Did you apply for benefits but you think you were unfairly denied?
- Is someone taking your benefits and/or do you want to receive your benefits directly?

EMPLOYMENT

- Are you recently unemployed? Were you unfairly fired?
- Does your employer owe you money?
- Were you harassed or discriminated against at work?
- Do you have a disability that affects your work?

CAR ISSUES

- Was your car unfairly taken (towed, impounded, or repossessed)?
- Is your license suspended?
- Are you having trouble with your car that you bought recently?

Connecting Young People to Civil Legal Aid

For civil legal services in Washington state, contact:

- **Legal Counsel for Youth and Children (LCYC) through their website, lcywa.org/yhp. LCYC serves young people in all Washington counties.**
- **CLEAR hotline, managed by Northwest Justice Project (NJP), at 1-888-201-1014. The CLEAR hotline serves young people outside of King County.**
- **The 2-1-1 hotline for assistance identifying and referring to an appropriate legal aid provider. 2-1-1 serves young people in King County.**