

Tacoma Free Bankruptcy Legal Services and Clinics (updated as of 7/9/2024. Please contact resources directly for updated information)

Free Representation (Most organizations offer free legal services to persons 200% under poverty line)

Various legal organizations provide pro bono lawyers for bankruptcy matters. Low income and residence requirements apply.

| Name of Organization/Resource | Contact Information | Business Hours | Website |
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| <u>CENTS Student Loan Project</u> Clients enter the program through the neighborhood debt clinics operated by the King County Bar Association and the Northwest Justice Project. The facts of a client's case are screened for referral, if appropriate, to the program's litigation or non-litigation volunteers. Depending on the appropriate course of action for a given client's situation, the case is either taken up by a volunteer litigator who represents the debtor through trial in the Bankruptcy Court, or to an attorney able to advise the client on non-bankruptcy, administrative repayment options afforded under federal law and regulation. | (206) 409-3459 | To be screened for this program, please attend a free debt clinic offered by the King County Bar Association (206-267-7070) or Northwest Justice Project. CENTS Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, Closed: Federal holidays, Thanksgiving week, and Christmas Day through New Year Day | https://centsprogram.org/student-loan-project/ https://centsprogram.org/student-loan-debt-navigation-events/ Screening: https://www.kcba.org/?pg=Neighborhood-Legal-Clinics |
| <u>Clallam-Jefferson County Pro Bono Lawyer Program</u> (Volunteer lawyer program, Quarterly Drop-In Clinics); contact CLEAR for initial screen and referral to a clinic; Clinics in Port Angeles and Port Townsend. | CLEAR: (888) 201-1014 | 9:15 AM to 12:15 PM | clallamcountybar.com/pro-bono; https://cjcpl.org/ |

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| <u>Clark County Volunteer Lawyers Program</u> CCVLP is currently closed to bankruptcy and debt related cases, but their website has a list of various resources that may be of assistance to individuals. | (360) 695-5313 Email: info@ccvlp.org | | https://ccvlp.org/get-help/ |
| <u>CLEAR</u> (Coordinated Legal Education, Advice, and Referral) *Refers student loan cases to volunteers through the Northwest Justice Project law clinic. Contact CLEAR for initial screening and referral. | 1-888-201-1014 | Monday-Friday 9:15 AM to 12:15 PM | https://nwjustice.org/clear-hotline |
| <u>CLEAR*Sr. (for seniors over 60)</u> Clients who contact CLEAR*Sr starting at 9:15 AM will be asked to leave a message with their name, phone number and whether it is all right to leave a message. The CLEAR*Sr line will close once the voice mail message system is full. | Any Income Amount: 1-888-387-7111 Low-income Number: 1-888-201-1014 | 9:15 AM – 12:25 PM | |
| <u>Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Legal Aid</u> CWLA is a 501(c)3 organization providing services in Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, Lewis, and Pacific counties. They work with local attorneys who volunteer or work part-time as employees or contractors. They also provide community presentations, legal referrals, free forms, and instructional materials. They provide case managers who help clients along the way. | (360) 425-2579 Email: cwlap@live.com | | http://cwlap.org/financial/ |

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| <p>Most of this work takes place in legal advice clinics and consultations, and in some limited or extensive legal representation, where clients have high barriers to self-representation.</p> | | | |
| <p><u>Kitsap Legal Services</u> provides advice and limited assistance with paperwork completion for filing Chapter 7 bankruptcy. They do provide representation at bankruptcy court and will also give advice for anyone with credit card, medical or other types of debt.</p> | <p>(360) 479-6125</p> <p>Email: GetHelp@KitsapLegalAid.org</p> | | <p>https://kitsaplegalaid.org/services/</p> |
| <p><u>Northwest Consumer Law Center</u> In a partnership with the Federal Bar Association, NWCLC offers a free pro se bankruptcy clinic twice a month that helps hundreds of families use bankruptcy as a tool to financial recovery.</p> <p>Sign up to attend a free clinic to get free legal advice on filing for bankruptcy without an attorney (<i>Pro Se</i>). Experienced bankruptcy lawyers can look through your forms to catch things that may cause problems for your case and help you fix them. They'll advise on bankruptcy-related issues and answer questions. Attend as many times as you need during the duration of your bankruptcy.</p> | <p>General Inquiries: (206) 805-0989</p> <p>Intake Line for Potential Clients: (206) 805-1722</p> | <p>Monday-Friday 9:00 AM- 5:00 PM By appointment only. Closed on federal holidays</p> | <p>https://nwclc.org/bankruptcy-clinic/</p> |

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| <u>Northwest Justice Project</u> NJP provides legal assistance and representation to low-income people in cases affecting basic human needs such as family safety and security, housing preservation, protection of income, access to health care, education, and other basic needs. Apply online for free legal help from NJP and other legal aid providers in your county. | Seattle (Main Office): (206) 464-1519 Client Intake: call 211 Eviction help: (855) 657-8387 | Apply online for legal assistance. | https://nwjustice.org/get-legal-help |
| <u>Tacoma Pro Bono</u> provides free civil legal aid to low-income individuals who face legal issues in Pierce County, WA. They have eligibility requirements for many (not all) of their programs, but these may be waived if your legal issue is COVID related. | (253) 572-5134 621 Tacoma Avenue S., #302 Tacoma, WA | WALK-IN INTAKE: Monday-Thursday 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Phone Intake: Monday-Thursday 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM Online Intake Form: https://tpvlsoi.legalservice.org/modules/matter/external_intake.php?pid=129&h=daa817& | https://tacomaprobono.org/ |
| <u>Legal Assistance for Veterans & Military Personnel from the Attorney General's Office of Military and Veteran Legal Assistance</u> Promotes and facilitates civil legal assistance programs, pro bono services, and self-help services for military service members, Veterans, and their families. This group does not | | | www.atg.wa.gov/legal-assistance-veterans-military-personnel |

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| provide legal representation in court. This is a resource for legal information. | | | |
| <u>For Washington National Guard Members & Immediate Families</u> Attorneys Assisting Citizen-Soldiers & Families A network of volunteer civilian attorneys can offer assistance in areas of law such as landlord-tenant, consumer law, family law, immigration, and other related issues. | Washington National Guard Legal Assistance Attorney (253) 512-8262 | | aacf.wordpress.com/ |
| <u>Upsolve</u> Upsolve is a 501(c)(3) legal aid nonprofit that started in 2016. Upsolve helps low-income families who cannot afford lawyers file bankruptcy for free, using an online web app. | Mailing Address: 205 Hudson St, Floor 7 New York, NY 10013 | | https://upsolve.org/ |
| <u>Self-Help WA Law Legal Information</u> This group does not provide legal representation in court. This is a resource for legal information. | | | https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/ https://www.washingtonlawhelp.org/issues/consumer-debt |
| <u>Pierce County Law Library</u> Main Branch: County City Building 930 Tacoma Ave. S. Tacoma, WA 98402 | Main Branch: (253) 798-7494 | Monday-Friday 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM | https://www.piercecountywa.gov/2075/Legal-Help-Links |

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| (*there are no clinic meetings being held at the Law Library. Instead, contact organizations offering assistance via telephone.) | | | |
| <u>211 Legal Referral and Information Hotline</u> Information for people facing civil (non-criminal) legal matters. | 211 | Monday-Friday 8 AM-6 PM | |

