

How to Get Help

Call or visit one of our offices between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, to find out if you qualify for assistance. An intake can be completed over the phone or in person.

You will be asked questions about your income and the details of your problem. If your case meets all of our guidelines, it will be assigned to an attorney or paralegal for assistance. At the time of your first interview, please make sure to have all documents relating to your problem with you.

If you are not able to travel to our offices because of an illness or disability, we will make arrangements to visit you.

Central Jersey Legal Services



receives support from:

The State of New Jersey:
Department of the Treasury
Division of Mental Health Services
Division of Child Protection & Permanency
State Office of Victim/Witness Advocacy
The IOLTA Fund of the Bar of New Jersey
The Counties of Mercer, Middlesex and Union
Title III of the Older Americans Act
The Ryan White CARE Act
The Campaign for Justice
The Legal Services Corporation
The United Way



Central Jersey Legal Services has offices in Trenton, New Brunswick, Perth Amboy and Elizabeth.

If you have a legal problem and cannot afford an attorney, call or visit the office nearest you to find out more about how we can help.

Mercer County

198 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08608
(609) 695-6249

Middlesex County

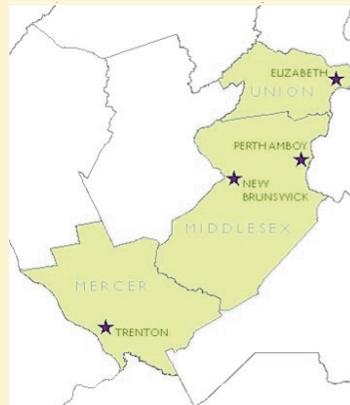
317 George Street #201
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
(732) 249-7600

313 State Street #308
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861
(732) 324-1613

Union County

60 Prince Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07208
(908) 354-4340

Our offices are located within walking distance of buses and trains. Call the office in your county for more information.



Central Jersey Legal Services



Central Jersey Legal Services provides free legal help to low-income people who live in Mercer, Middlesex and Union Counties.

www.lsnj.org/cjls

About Us

Central Jersey Legal Services (CJLS) is a nonprofit law firm. We offer free legal help in civil (non-criminal) cases for low-income residents of Mercer, Middlesex and Union Counties.

If you have a legal problem and cannot afford a private attorney, Central Jersey Legal Services is here to help. Our attorneys and paralegals will answer your questions and provide legal advice and instruction in self-help, or they may offer full representation. The type of service you receive depends upon the details of your legal case. Some problems can be solved with advice and instruction, others require more extensive services.

Our staff will also meet with community groups and provide legal education workshops on topics of interest to our clients. To find out more, contact the CJLS office in your county.

The problems listed here are some of the most common types of cases that we handle. There are other legal problems with which we can help. Call the office nearest you to find out if your problem qualifies for assistance.

CJLS Provides Legal Assistance For:

Housing Problems

Eviction, foreclosure, rent collection, tenant repair issues, Section 8 and other public housing problems, and housing discrimination.

Family Matters

Help for victims of domestic violence. Divorce, child custody, child and spousal support and visitation/parenting time.

Consumer Problems

Bankruptcy, collections, credit access, utility billing/shut-offs, unfair sales practices, and predatory lending.

Public Benefits & Employment

Benefits such as TANF, General Assistance, SSI/SSD, and Food Stamps. Unemployment, pay or benefits withholding and criminal record expungement.

Access to Health Care

Medicaid/Medicare, Charity Care, prescription drug coverage, private insurance, and access to health care.

Senior Citizens

Powers of attorney, wills, guardianships, nursing homes and other health care issues.

Eligibility for Service

Eligibility for legal services depends on household income and type of legal problem. CJLS has limited resources, and we are not able to provide help to everyone who is eligible. We have guidelines which give some cases higher priority than others.

Depending on the type of problem you have, we may only be able to offer you advice on how to proceed on your own, or we may be able to offer you full representation. If you contact us with a problem, we will try our best to assist you.

Each of our offices has bilingual staff to assist persons who speak Spanish, and we will accommodate persons who speak other languages.

Limitations on Service

Central Jersey Legal Services does not provide assistance in criminal cases. We do not handle cases that generate attorney's fees, such as filing lawsuits in negligence or accident cases.

Due to limited resources, we are not able to provide legal services for everyone that applies, but we will do our best to help. If we cannot provide you with legal services, we will try to refer you to other agencies that may be able to assist you.