

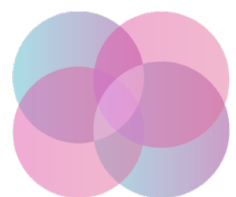
Legal Aid ACT

Our services

Free legal help



Easy Read



Embrace Access

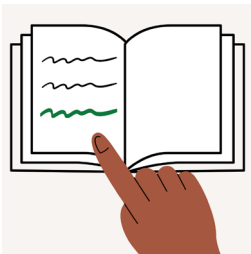
About this book



This is an Easy Read book.



Easy Read uses pictures to explain ideas.



New words are **bold and green**. We explain what new words mean.



Easy Read includes key information.



You can learn more on our website here
www.LegalAidACT.org.au

About us

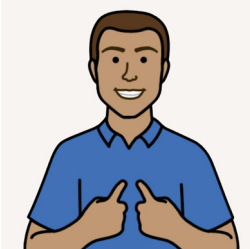


We give free legal help to people in the ACT.



Legal help might include

- advice
- information
- **representation.**



Representation means a lawyer helps you at court.

Our services

Free helpline



Our free helpline is 1300 654 314.



If you have been charged, call us as soon as you can.



We will find a lawyer you can talk to for free.



Call us if you do not hear back from us after 2 weeks.



You can ask us for a free interpreter.

Duty lawyer services



A **duty lawyer** helps you for 1 time.
For example, one off advice or representation.



A duty lawyer can

- give one off advice



- represent you on your first day at court.



You can use a duty lawyer at the

- Magistrates Court



- Children's Court

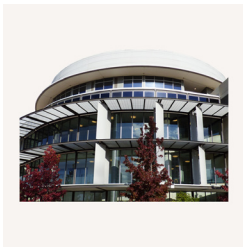


- Supreme Court.

How to get a duty lawyer



Our duty lawyer is at the
Legal Aid Criminal Law Duty Office.



For adults, go to the office at the Magistrates Court on **Level 1** outside court room 1.



You can go to our office from 9 am on the day you must be at court.



For people under 18, the duty lawyer is at the Children's Court on Mondays outside court room 6.

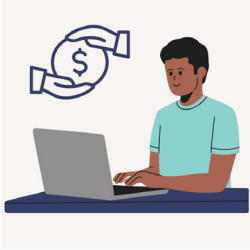


Sometimes our duty lawyer cannot help you.
For example, if they are helping someone else.

Ongoing help from a lawyer



Ongoing help means a free lawyer can help you over time.



You must apply for a **grant of legal assistance** to get ongoing help.



A grant of legal assistance is a form you fill in to get funding to pay for the lawyer.



We might ask you to do a **means test** to check

- how much money you have



- your **assets**. Assets include things you might own. For example, a house.

What to bring



When you meet your lawyer bring

- your charge sheets



- your statement of facts from police



- other information about your case.



You have a right to get a copy of your **allegations** from police.



Allegations are charges against you.



We can help you get these documents if you do not have them yet.

New words



Adjournment means the Judge lets you come back to court on a different day.



Bail means you agree to follow the rules made by the court.



Custody means you stay in hospital or jail until you come back to court.



Criminal case means the police think you broke the law and you must go to court.



A **charge** is how police say you broke the law.



The **DPP** is the Director of Public Prosecutions.



The DPP is the lawyer in charge who works for the police and the community.



A **mention** is when you come to court for a short time.



Remand means you are put in custody until the Judge says you can leave.



Summons is a legal document that says you must come to court.

More information

Legal Aid ACT



Visit our website at www.LegalAidACT.org.au



Call us on 1300 654 314



Email us at LegalAid@LegalAidACT.org.au



Visit us at 2 Allsop Street Canberra.



Write to us at GPO Box 512 Canberra 2601.

Help to call



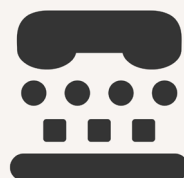
Translating and Interpreting Service

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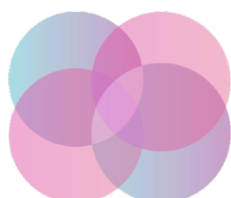
National Relay Service

1800 555 660



TTY

1800 555 677



Embrace **Access**

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