
What can I expect from the legal assistance staff?

- staff knowledgeable about the law, policy and/or regulations affecting you
- staff trained to listen to your concerns and take your problems seriously
- staff to represent YOU and not your family, the government or anyone else
- confidential relationships with your legal representative
- competent, thorough and aggressive representation
- a responsible representative to keep you informed about your case, safeguard any money, documents or other important papers involved in the case, and who will document the steps taken in your case

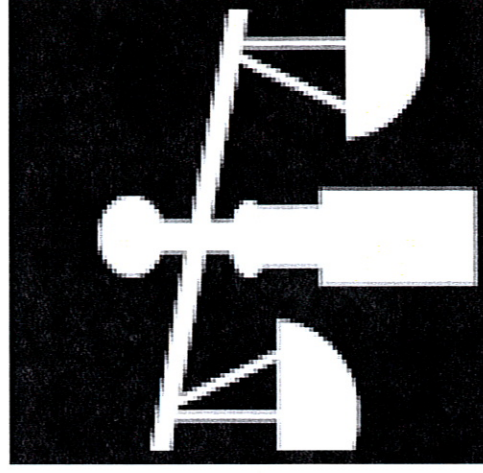
What is the Alabama Elder Law Helpline?

The Alabama Elder Law Helpline can provide you with answers to many common legal questions. The helpline is staffed by an attorney and paralegal. Call **1-866-456-3959** for the Alabama Elder Law Helpline.

How do I contact the Alabama Senior Legal Assistance Program?

Call your local Area Agency on Aging at
1-800-AGE-LINE
(1-800-243-5463)

Alabama Senior Legal Assistance Program



Legal Advice and Education for Senior Citizens

For legal help, call
1-800-AGE-LINE
(1-800-243-5463)



Alabama Department of Senior Services

770 Washington Avenue, Suite 470
Montgomery, AL 36104
Phone: 1-877-425-2243
Fax: (334) 242-5594
<http://www.AlabamaAgerline.gov>

What is the Senior Legal Assistance Program?

The Senior Legal Assistance Program in Alabama provides legal assistance in non-criminal matters such as accessing health and long term care, debt collection, housing, consumer issues, Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, elder abuse, exploitation and fraud, defense of guardianship, advance directives, some end-of-life issues and other legal services to individuals 60 years of age and over in every county in the state.

Do real attorneys work for the legal assistance program?

Yes. The LAP for your area is staffed by lawyers licensed by the State Bar of Alabama and/or paralegals who have received certification from an accredited paralegal program and are supervised by attorneys.

Is legal assistance a state program?

No. The program is a federally required and funded program that also receives matching funds from the state and local governments and in-kind support from the providers of the services.

How much do services cost?

There is no cost for information, education or representation by senior legal assistance. The program, funded in part by the Older Americans Act, welcomes all voluntary contributions and donations, but *they are not required* in order to receive services.

What if I decide to make a contribution or donation?

You may certainly do so. Send your gift to the Area Agency on Aging office in your area and indicate that your gift is for legal services.

How do you decide eligibility for your services?

First, our program targets people 60

- years of age and older who are:
 - in the most social and/or economic need;
 - are low income minorities; or
 - in rural areas.
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Second, the person must have the type of problem that is handled by our program. It must fall within our priorities or at least be the type of case that we are allowed to handle.

Will I go through an income test in order to be eligible?

No. There are no income limits that would keep you from being eligible for services.

What kind of cases do you handle?

We do not handle criminal cases; cases that would generate a fee for a private attorney; and some types of cases outside our experience areas.

We do *handle* cases involving:

- Income maintenance
- Defense or guardianship
- Elder Abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Health care issues
- End-of-life issues
- Individual rights
- Powers of attorney
- Homeownership issues

What other kind of services do you provide?

We provide information and referral to other programs and services, community education presentations on legal issues are also available.

Alabama Elder Law Helpline: 1-866-456-3959

For Local Senior Legal Assistance Call: 1-800-AGE-LINE (1-800-243-5463)
