



OMBUDS OFFICE

Harvard Medical School • Harvard Dental School • Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Legal Referral Services

Massachusetts Bar Association (MBA)
Serves all of Massachusetts

Phone: 617-654-0400 (Referrals)
<http://www.masslawhelp.com/>

Call between the hours of: 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (M-F). There is no cost to utilize LRS, but referrals are made to fee-charging attorneys, who may charge you no more than \$25 for the initial half-hour consultation. *Not a free legal service.*

**** CAUTION:** After the initial consultation period is over, the attorney may charge his/her normal rate for the rest of the session. With this in mind, it is advisable to ask about the length of the initial consultation and fee immediately.

*** Since March of 1991, the **MBA has sponsored a monthly *Dial-A-Lawyer*** program that encourages members of the public to call with their legal problems and questions. This program was created in order to assist the people of Massachusetts that have fallen through the cracks of the legal and criminal justice system. To use Dial-A-Lawyer, call (617) 338-0610 or (877) 686-0711 on the **first Wednesday** of the month between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Boston Bar Association
Serves all of Massachusetts

Phone: 617-742-0625
<http://www.bostonbar.org/>

There is no charge to use their service and get referrals. An initial half-hour consultation with the attorney will never cost more than \$25. They have many attorneys who offer flexible fee structure payments plans, and other options to accommodate your financial needs, however you must discuss the fees and billing directly with the attorney at the time of your call or consultation. It is a good idea to get a written fee agreement with an attorney if you decide to hire them.

None of their attorneys provide free legal services. Depending on your income, and situation, you might qualify for a reduced rate attorney. Please contact us to see if you qualify.

Volunteer Lawyers Project (VLP)

ERL (Eastern Region Legal Intake)
Phone: 617-603-1700 or 1-800-342-5297
<http://www.vlpnet.org/>

VLP represents US citizens, green card holders, and certain other immigrants. Specific rules do apply, and legal help may be limited due to funding requirements. Even if you do not qualify for their services, they do their best to offer referrals. All information shared with VLP is private and confidential, regardless if you are eligible for assistance.

Mediation Services

Community Dispute Settlement Center

Phone: 617-876-5376
<http://www.communitydispute.org/>

Fees are per session (not per hour) and are based on individual (or household) gross income/assets. A mediation session typically lasts 2-3 hours.

Harvard Mediation Program

Phone: 617-495-1854
<https://clinics.law.harvard.edu/hmp/refer-a-dispute/>

Mediation Works Inc.

10 Liberty Sq., 4th floor, Boston

Phone: 617-973-9739
<https://www.mwi.org/>

HMS/HSDM/HSPH OMBUDS OFFICE

[164 Longwood Ave., 1st floor, Boston, MA 02115](https://www.harvard.edu/departments/ombuds-office)

OFFICE 617-432-4041 WEB [hms.harvard.edu/departments/ombuds-office](https://www.harvard.edu/departments/ombuds-office) (includes self-help resources)