

## Family Law Project (FLP) What is it?

The **Family Law Project** provides legal assistance to people with limited income who are representing themselves in family law matters. The FLP can give you free advice at one of its regular family law clinics.

The FLP is an independent program organized by the Yellowstone Area Bar Association and is managed by a volunteer committee. Financial screening is provided by Montana Legal Services Association (MLSA).

The FLP is not a self-help legal service center. The Yellowstone County Self Help Law Center can help you find resources, information or paperwork about your family law matter or other legal issues. The back panel has information about the Self-Help Law Center.

The **FLP** services are only available to people who meet certain income and eligibility requirements. You **MUST**:

1. Have a family law issue
2. Meet FLP income requirements; and
3. Live in Yellowstone County or neighboring counties

***Placement in the Clinic is not guaranteed.***

## Other Resources

### **Montana Legal Services Association (MLSA)**

207 North Broadway, Suite 430  
Billings, MT 59101  
(406) 248-7113  
Helpline: 1-800-666-6899  
[www.mtlsa.org](http://www.mtlsa.org)

### **Yellowstone County Self-Help Law Center**

*Provides information and forms to assist you in representing yourself. The Self-Help Law Center is staffed with non-attorneys and cannot give you legal advice.*

216 N. 29th  
Billings, MT 59101  
406-869-3531  
[www.courts.mt.gov/selfhelp](http://www.courts.mt.gov/selfhelp)

### **YWCA Gateway House**

*Emergency Legal Advocacy  
Secure Emergency Shelter*  
24-Hour Hotline: 406-245-4472  
24-Hour Textline: 406-702-0229  
[www.ywcabillings.org](http://www.ywcabillings.org)

### **Child Support Enforcement Division (CSED)**

1500 Poly Drive, Suite 200  
Billings, MT 59102  
(406) 655-550  
[www.dphhs.mt.gov/CSED](http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/CSED)

*Serving the  
Legal Needs  
of Low  
Income  
Yellowstone  
Area  
Residents*



In partnership with the  
Yellowstone Area Bar  
Association  
and  
Montana Legal Services  
Association.

Family Law Project

## Legal Advice Clinic

Legal Advice Clinics (LACs) are scheduled on a regular basis, but how often and where the Clinics take place may change from time to time.

At the clinic, an attorney will give you legal advice about your family law questions and also review forms before you file them. You may return to the clinic for additional questions, but you'll have to make another appointment.

### ***Before you apply***

1. Have your financial information ready.
2. Know your schedule so you can make an appointment if you qualify.
3. Have your contact information available in case we need to call you back.

### ***Before your clinic appointment***

#### ***How to apply***

Montana Legal Services Association (MLSA) provides the financial screening for the FLP. *The number below is for clinic appointments only.*

**Call:** Angela Deputee, 248-7113, Ext. 310

**Visit:** Yellowstone County Self Help Law Center or MLSA in person for applications and additional information (see back panel).

1. Visit the Self Help Law Center to see if there are any self-help forms you can get started on. Fill them out.
2. Gather any documents about your case.
3. Make a list of questions for the attorney.

### ***The day of your appointment***

1. Plan to arrive 15 minutes before your appointment, and leave time to find parking.
2. Bring documents about your case, including all papers filed with the court.
3. Bring any self-help forms you have started to fill out.
4. Have your questions ready for the attorney.

***If you are in danger, do not wait for a clinic! Get Help Now!***

***YWCA for shelter and an emergency advocate:***

**24-Hour Hotline: (406)245-4472**

**24-Hour Textline: (406) 702-0229**

***MLSA to apply for legal assistance:***  
**Helpline: 1-800-666-6899**

### **Helpful Tips**

#### ***What if I can't make a scheduled appointment?***

If you do not show up for your appointment, you may not get a chance to reschedule, so please be certain you can make your appointment. **Call as soon as you realize you can't make your appointment!**

***What if I have kids?*** If your case needs a child support calculation, you should contact Child Support Enforcement Division (CSED) right away and open a case.

***What if I want to file something right away?*** It can be worth it to wait. If you are not sure of your legal options or what might happen if you take certain legal actions, you might be better off waiting to talk with an attorney at the clinic.

***What if I've been served or have a deadline?*** If you have been served with legal paperwork or have a deadline prior to an available clinic date, do not wait until your appointment to take action. Talk with an attorney. If you cannot afford an attorney, visit the Yellowstone County Self Help Center or Montana Legal Services.

***I'm planning to file a case but the paperwork is confusing.*** If you have not filed a case but are planning to, visit the Yellowstone County Self-Help Law Center first to get information and receive assistance in completing family law forms.

Clinic attorneys can help you with the parts of the forms you aren't certain about. Completing paperwork first allows the attorney more time to help you with your legal issue on the day of the Clinic.

***Can I bring my children with me to the Clinic?*** There is no child care or staff available to help with your children at the Clinic. You'll need to be focused on your time with the attorney. Please make arrangements for someone to care for your children.

