



The mission of the Legal Aid of Arkansas Modest Means Panel is to meet the overwhelming need for access to the justice system for moderate-income individuals with defined common civil legal assistance, where legal aid and pro bono assistance is not possible, and household resources are insufficient to pay prevailing hourly rates for legal services. The Modest Means Panel will meet this need by providing moderate-income individuals access to a panel of attorneys who besides providing a public service, will also have the opportunity to broaden their practice.

Legal Aid of Arkansas Modest Means Panel

Legal Aid of Arkansas is creating the Modest Means Program to help low to moderate-income Arkansans find affordable legal assistance. Because of limited resources, Legal Aid is unable to provide assistance to all applicants who qualify financially for assistance. There are also several hundred thousand Arkansans who exceed Legal Aid's financial eligibility guidelines but are unable to afford an attorney, even at the reasonable rates charged by the legal community in Arkansas.

We anticipate this project fill some voids in the ability to access the justice system in Arkansas, aiding the court infrastructure, while providing participating attorneys the ability to serve the low to moderate income community. Newer attorneys will benefit from the exposure and experience while also generating some income. We plan to initially focus this project in rural areas where access to justice resources are scarce.

Lawyers who choose to participate will agree to charge an hourly rate to clients based on a sliding scale for legal work provided to Modest Means Program clients. Modest Means lawyers will handle only family law, bankruptcy, wills and powers of attorney, guardianship, and criminal record expungement matters.

Clients requesting assistance will enter the program by contacting the Legal Aid hotline at 800-952-9243, or by applying for assistance online at www.arlegalaid.org. Legal Aid will only refer qualified clients based on income guidelines and the availability of a lawyer serving the county in which the legal problem lies. It is anticipated that there will be a limited number of lawyers in the program, and there may not be a Modest Means lawyer in every county.

If a potential client qualifies, Legal Aid will make a referral to a lawyer in the area. The client will need to make an appointment to meet with the lawyer for a consultation about the legal issues. The lawyer will provide a free sixty minute consultation. The lawyer has the final say in the qualification process.

If an attorney is hired through Modest Means, the client may be asked to pay a retainer (deposit against fees) up front. The amount of the retainer will depend on the lawyer's estimate of how much work will be required to complete the case. The client will also be responsible for any court fees and other direct costs, which the attorney may request up front and will not be counted as part of any required retainer. In appropriate circumstances, the lawyer may determine that a client would qualify to proceed in forma pauperis, meaning the lawyer would file a petition to have some of the fees and costs waived. The fee schedule would be as follows:

- Client household income below 125% of poverty- \$35 per hour with a ten hour maximum for the retainer.
- Client household income from 125% to 200% of poverty- \$50 per hour with a ten hour maximum for the retainer.
- Client household income from 200% to 250% of poverty- \$75 per hour with a ten hour maximum for the retainer.

No representation would be undertaken until both the client and attorney sign a retainer agreement clearly setting forth the duties and responsibilities of each, and clearly stating that representation is being undertaken as part of the Modest Means project.

Legal Aid of Arkansas Modest Means Panel

The Modest Means project is not a traditional Pro Bono program. In some areas, this may be called a low bono project, but the client must be able to pay for any services they receive. If a client's circumstances change and they are unable to pay the fees, they can be referred back to the Legal Aid program for consideration.

Initially, Legal Aid of Arkansas will be providing logistical support and oversight for this project. Since many of the clients would not otherwise qualify for traditional Legal Aid, alternative funds will be necessary to support the project. Legal Aid proposes that a \$25 administrative fee be received from participating attorneys for each case successfully referred to defer this expense.

Draft

Legal Aid of Arkansas Modest Means Panel

Modest Means Panelist Information

The Modest Means project is a reduced-fee referral panel designed to make legal services accessible to lower and moderate income people who are ineligible for legal aid because of either income or Legal Aid case acceptance priorities.

Attorneys who accept referrals agree to charge no fee for an initial consultation, and work on the following fee schedule if an attorney/client relationship is established and representation is undertaken.

- Client household income below 125% of poverty- \$35 per hour with a ten hour maximum for the retainer.
- Client household income from 125% to 200% of poverty- \$50 per hour with a ten hour maximum for the retainer.
- Client household income from 200% to 250% of poverty- \$75 per hour with a ten hour maximum for the retainer.

Attorneys who charge a flat rate fee that does not exceed the above guidelines (examples might include \$300 plus costs for an uncontested divorce that takes an average of 10 hours for a client at 150% of poverty, or \$500 for a chapter 7 no asset bankruptcy that takes an average of 8 hours for a client at 225% of poverty) may charge those flat rates in lieu of the above schedule.

Legal Aid staff will screen calls and online applications for general eligibility (subject matter, client income and location of dispute) and match potential clients with participating attorneys in the area on a rotation bases. Client's will at no time establish an attorney-client relationship with Legal Aid, and will only be provided referral, legal information when appropriate, and logistical information.

Legal Aid staff will explain the Modest Means program to prospective clients, assure that each client is aware of potential fees including the attorney's hourly rate, the possible need for a retainer deposit, and other costs such as filing and service fees. Clients will be told that Modest Means attorneys are private attorneys with regular caseloads who agree to perform services at a reduced fee for a limited number of clients.

Staff pre-qualifies Modest Means clients if their income does not exceed 250% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. These income caps are adjusted annually. Restrictions on client assets also apply.

Legal Aid sends a copy of the client's application to the attorney. Since the Modest Means attorney spends more time with the client, and may discover undisclosed income and/or assets during the course of the initial consultation, the attorney remains the final arbiter of whether a client qualifies for the program.

Pre-qualified clients are referred to the attorney whose practice most closely matches the subject matter of the problem and whose office is located near the client. If more than one Modest Means panel attorney serves that geographic location and handles the substantive legal matter, then clients are referred on a rotating basis. Clients are told that the Modest Means attorneys do not travel, nor do they ordinarily take clients who live outside of the area they indicate they will serve when signing up for the program.

Legal Aid of Arkansas Modest Means Panel

It is up to the attorney and client to decide whether to continue the attorney/client relationship. The attorney will be asked to complete and submit a simple one page closing report to Legal Aid at the completion of a case for the purpose of program evaluation.

Draft

Legal Aid of Arkansas Modest Means Panel

Policies and Procedures

I. Program

A. Overview

The Modest Means project is designed to make legal services available to lower income people who are ineligible for legal aid but unable to afford regular attorney fees.

B. Operation

Legal Aid shall develop and revise referral procedures and shall be responsible for the operation of the program. Procedures and rules shall be consistent with the program goals and the following guidelines:

1. Staff may not comment on the qualifications of a Panelist and may not guarantee the quality or value of legal services.
2. Staff shall not make referrals on the basis of race, sex, age, religion, sexual orientation, or national origin.
3. No more than three referrals may be made for a client for the same legal problem.
4. Staff may provide legal information and referrals to social service agencies for callers for whom a legal referral would not be appropriate, and may develop agency resource lists.
5. Callers complaining about possible ethical violations by Panelists shall be referred to the Committee on Professional conduct.

C. Client Eligibility and Attorney Fees

1. Client income must not exceed 250% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.
2. Attorney fees shall be set on a sliding schedule based on the client's income. There will be no fee for an initial consultation of sixty minutes.

II. Panelists

A. Eligibility

Attorneys satisfying the following requirements shall be eligible for participation in the program:

1. A Panelist must be licensed and in good standing in Arkansas with malpractice coverage and not be the subject of a formal disciplinary proceeding.
2. Panelists against whom disciplinary proceedings have been filled shall be immediately removed from the Modest Means project until those charges have been resolved. A matter shall not be considered resolved until all matters relating to the disciplinary proceedings, including appeals, have been concluded and the matter is no longer pending in any form.

B. Rules for Panelists

In order to remain eligible to receive referrals each Panelist shall:

1. Participate only in those substantive areas reasonably within the Panelist's competence.
2. Refer back to Modest Means project any client with whom the Panelist has a conflict of interest.
3. Cooperate with the Modest Means project staff by responding promptly to requests for information.
4. Immediately notify staff if the Panelist is unable to accept referrals due to vacation, leave of absence, heavy caseload or any other reason.
5. Fill out and return all Modest Means project referral notices within two weeks of the referral date.
6. Submit any administrative fees on clients referred by the Modest Means project to Legal Aid within 30 days of being retained.

Legal Aid of Arkansas Modest Means Panel

Modest Means Program Registration

Select your areas of practice by clicking the boxes and type any additional information in the spaces provided. Please print your completed form, sign it, and email/fax/mail it back to us. modestmeans@arlegalaid.org -870-910-5562- 714 S. Main, Jonesboro, AR 72401

Domestic Relations

- Divorce
- Custody
- Visitation
- Support/Modification
- Paternity
- Adoption
- Name Change
- Juvenile Guardianship

Estate Planning

- Adult Guardianship
- Wills
- Power of Attorney
- Probate
- Simple Deeds/Property Transactions

Other

- Bankruptcy (Chapter 7)
- Criminal Record Expungement/Sealing
- Pro Se Coaching

Active Other State Licenses: _____ Other Languages: _____

Counties where I will participate: _____

Other Information _____

Draft

I agree to comply with all the Modest Means Program Policies and Procedures.

Signature _____ Date _____

(Print Name) _____ Bar # _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____ Phone _____

Fax _____ Email _____

I prefer to receive notices by:

- Email
- Fax
- Regular Mail
- Phone

Legal Aid of Arkansas Modest Means Panel
Income and Assets Guidelines

Size of Family Unit	125%	200%	250%
1	\$14,713	\$23,540	\$29,425
2	\$19,913	\$31,860	\$39,825
3	\$25,113	\$40,180	\$50,225
4	\$30,313	\$48,500	\$60,625
5	\$35,513	\$56,820	\$71,025
6	\$40,713	\$65,140	\$81,425
7	\$45,913	\$73,460	\$91,825
8	\$51,113	\$81,780	\$102,225

The figures represent the Federal Poverty Guidelines, as determined by the Department of Health and Human Services. For each additional family member, add \$5,200 for 125%, \$8,320 for 200%, and \$10,400 for 200%

Each eligibility level is determined using **gross** income. Income includes all household income used for household expenses. Persons in the household include spouse/partner and dependents (not roommates). A dependent is someone living in the household where more than 50% of their livelihood is provided by you.

Liquid asset limits are \$2,000 for an individual and \$4,000 for a household. Liquid assets are cash or something easily converted to cash with significant degradation in value.

Non-liquid asset limits are \$10,000 for a household. Non-liquid assets are not easily turned into cash. A primary residence, one vehicle per driver used for transportation purpose and not recreational purpose, work related tools and equipment, retirement plans and cash values of life insurance policies, and proceeds that compensate for bodily injury or wrongful death of someone for whom the client is/was dependent, are not counted toward non-liquid asset limits.

Model Retainer Agreement – Legal Aid of Arkansas Modest Means Panel

{Date}
{Client Name}
{Address}

Dear {Client Name}

In accordance with our conversation today, this document details the agreement between us for this law firm to represent you in connection with _____

Consistent with our conversation, our representation of you will be on the following basis:

- 1) We will record time spent on the above matter, and we will bill you at the hourly rate of (per the modest means sliding scale). If we determine that the adverse party will be responsible for the payment of your legal fees, we reserve the right to raise our hourly rate for all time spent on the above matter to our standard hourly rate of \$ ____

The reduced rate we have agreed upon was set after representations by you that your income falls below 250% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines currently in effect.

We reserve the right to raise our hourly rate up to our standard rate of \$____per hour in the event that your income increases above 250% of those guidelines, or if it becomes evident that the financial information you provided to the Legal Aid of Arkansas Modest Means Panel was false. You agree to notify us of any change in your household income or property.

- 2) Our fees for service will be billed periodically along with separately listed out-of-pocket expenses. You agree that you are responsible for paying all costs related to your case. These costs might include filing fees for court papers, serving (delivering) court papers to the opposing party in your case, copying charges, long distance telephone charges, court reporter charges and other such costs. Such costs, when advanced by us, will be shown separately on the monthly bill. Payment of each statement is due within 30 days of the statement date. At his or her discretion, the attorney may agree to arrange a payment plan with you, at your request.
- 3) We acknowledge receipt of a retainer payment, as an advance against fees, of (not more than ten times the hourly rate based on the sliding scale). The retainer payment will be reflected on your monthly statements until it has been used. One the retainer payment has been used, a net balance will be shown on the statement each month. That balance must be paid as provided in paragraph 2 above.
- 4) We reserve the right to withdraw from our engagement as your attorneys upon reasonable notice when any fees, expenses or charges are past due or in other appropriate circumstances.
- 5) You retain the right to terminate our representation of you at any time. Amounts incurred for legal services rendered prior to termination will remain payable.

If the foregoing arrangement is satisfactory to you, please sign one copy of this letter and return it to this law firm at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

{Lawyer's name /Firm name}

Accepted this ____ day of _____, 20____. By: _____
Client

Modest Means Program

Oregon State Bar, Modest Means Program, PO Box 231935, Tigard, OR 97281-1935
Voice: (503) 684-3763 (800) 452-7636 Fax: (503) 431-6444

PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING APPLICATION:

Oregon lawyers created the Modest Means Program to help moderate-income Oregonians find affordable legal assistance. The program is intended to help those who earn too much to qualify for legal aid, but who cannot afford traditional legal fees. Modest Means lawyers have agreed to charge reduced rates for legal work provided to clients referred to them through the program. There is no grant, fund or subsidy that makes up the difference between the lawyers' regular rates and the Modest Means Program rates. The lawyers agree to charge reduced rates because they believe in the mission of this program and want to help.

Types of Matters: Modest Means lawyers only handle certain kinds of family law, criminal defense, landlord/tenant and foreclosure matters. If the specific area of law with which you need help is not listed on the application, then it is not part of the program.

To Apply: Before you can be referred to a Modest Means lawyer you must apply and be pre-qualified. To apply, you must complete the application form and return it to us by fax, mail, or email (legalhelp@oregonstatebar.org--PDFs ONLY). You can call the number listed above for the application form or download it from the bar's website at www.oregonstatebar.org.

Please do not forget to sign and date your application. Your application will not be processed if you do not fill out your application completely, or fail to sign or date it. Do not include any other documents with your application – any documents you send to us will not be returned. We process most applications within one (1) business day. If you provide an email address, please check your email account for your referral or for questions that we may have about your application.

Eligibility: Eligibility is based on the type and location of your legal matter, your income and assets, your location, and availability of participating lawyers in your area. It is important to understand there are a limited number of lawyers in the program, and there may not be a Modest Means lawyer in your county. We cannot guarantee that we will have a lawyer for you even if you pre-qualify. In addition, your legal matter must be in Oregon and you must live in Oregon to be eligible for the Modest Means Program. If you do not live in Oregon you will not be referred to a Modest Means Program lawyer even if your legal matter is in Oregon.

(continued on next page)

Modest Means Program

Oregon State Bar, Modest Means Program, PO Box 231935, Tigard, OR 97281-1935
Voice: (503) 684-3763 (800) 452-7636 Fax: (503) 431-6444

Qualification Process: You will be contacted by email or telephone after your application has been reviewed. If you pre-qualify, we will give you the name and phone number of a lawyer in your area for you to contact. The lawyer to whom we refer you will receive a copy of your application and may ask additional questions to confirm your eligibility for the program. The lawyer has the final say as to whether or not you qualify for the program.

Initial Consultation: If you are referred to a Modest Means lawyer, you will need to call the lawyer to make an appointment for your initial consultation. Your consultation will cost no more than \$35, payable at the time that you meet with the lawyer.

Hiring a Modest Means Program Lawyer: Whether or not you hire the lawyer to represent you after your initial consultation is a decision for both you and the lawyer to make. We cannot guarantee that a lawyer will agree to take your case. All Modest Means lawyers who participate are volunteers and have the right to choose whether or not they will accept your case.

Legal Fees & Costs: Lawyers who are willing to accept Modest Means clients have agreed to charge no more than \$60, \$80, or \$100 per hour for any services they provide beyond the initial \$35 consultation. Which hourly rate will apply to you depends upon your income and assets. You will be asked to pay a retainer (deposit against fees) up front. The retainer amount will be determined by the lawyer following your initial consultation. The amount of the retainer will depend on the lawyer's estimate of how much work will be required to complete your case. You will also be charged for any court fees and other direct costs, including phone charges, photocopy expenses, etc.

The Modest Means Program is not a legal aid program and it is not a pro bono (free) program. You must be able to pay \$35 for an initial consultation, plus \$60/80/100 per hour (as applicable) for any work done beyond the initial consultation. In order to be referred to a Modest Means Program lawyer, your application must demonstrate that you have the ability to pay these fees. If someone will be helping you pay for your legal fees and costs please explain that on your application. If you are unable to pay these fees and costs, you should contact the legal aid office in your county of residence. The Oregon State Bar does not have a referral program for pro bono (free) lawyers.

Portland Metro Area: (503) 684-3763
Elsewhere in Oregon: (800) 452-7636
Fax: (503) 431-6444

APPLICATION FOR OREGON STATE BAR MODEST MEANS PROGRAM (PAGE 1 OF 3)

INSTRUCTIONS: Please print clearly or type. Please sign and date your application. Your application will not be processed if you do not fill out your application completely, or fail to sign or date it. Do not include any other documents with this application – any documents you send to us will not be returned. We process most applications within one (1) business day. If you provide an e-mail address, please check your e-mail account for your referral or questions we may have about your application. Fax or mail your completed application to us:

OREGON STATE BAR MODEST MEANS PROGRAM, P.O. BOX 231935, TIGARD, OR 97281-1935
FAX: (503) 431-6444 EMAIL: legalhelp@oregonstatebar.org

Please note: All information provided will be treated as confidential communications made for the purpose of facilitating the rendering of professional legal services to you. We will preserve the confidentiality of all such information unless otherwise required by law.

First Name	Last Name
Address	
City	Zip Code
Phone Number	E-mail Address [If you provide an e-mail address that is how you will be notified.]

Family Law (No Appeals)

- Divorce/Separation
- Custody/Parenting Time
- Support/Modification
- Juvenile/DHS/CSD/SCF issues
- Paternity
- Restraining Orders
- Process Questions
- Domestic Violence
- Grandparent/3rd Party Rights
- Spousal Support
- Coaching (General)
- Document Review

Criminal Law (No Capital Charges or Appeals)

- Misdemeanor
- Lesser Felony
- Major Felony
- DUII/DWS
- Parole/Probation
- Expungement

Real Property (No Appeals)

- Foreclosure
- Landlord-Tenant (Tenant)
- Landlord-Tenant (Landlord)
- Mobile Home (Tenant)
- Mobile Home (Landlord)

In which city/county do you need assistance?	
When is your next court date (if applicable)?	
What is the name of the opposing party?	
Does the opposing party have an attorney?	
If yes, what is the attorney's name?	
Are both parties in Oregon?	
Have you already consulted with an attorney?	
If yes, what is the attorney's name?	
Reason you are looking for another attorney:	

APPLICATION FOR OREGON STATE BAR MODEST MEANS PROGRAM (PAGE 2 of 3)

First Name	Last Name
Phone Number	E-mail Address

How many people live in your household including you? ___ Adults ___ Children

Marital Status: Unmarried or Widowed Married Separated Divorced

Do you and your spouse live in the same household? Yes No N/A

Do you rent or own the home in which you are living? Rent Own

Do you own any land or a house, even if you do not live there? Yes No

Make of each vehicle owned	Year	Model	Value (est.)
1. _____	_____	_____	\$ _____
2. _____	_____	_____	\$ _____

Gross Income (before taxes) (per month)

Wages: \$ _____

Spousal Support: \$ _____

Child Support: \$ _____

Veteran's Benefit: \$ _____

Unemployment: \$ _____

SSI/SSD: \$ _____

TANF (not SNAP): \$ _____

Public Benefits, Aid, SNAP: \$ _____

Retirement/Investment Income: \$ _____

Other income (please specify): \$ _____

Total Gross Income: \$ _____ 0

Liquid Assets

Checking Account Balance \$ _____

Savings Account Balance \$ _____

Money Market/Other Account \$ _____

Total Liquid Assets: \$ _____ 0

Non-liquid Assets

Amount in Retirement Plans (401k), mutual funds, securities, bonds, etc.: \$ _____

Other non-liquid assets (please specify): \$ _____

Total Non-liquid Assets: \$ _____ 0

Special Expenses & Debts¹ (Per Month)

Medical²(see explanation below): \$ _____

Child Care³(see explanation below): \$ _____

Transportation⁴(see explanation below): \$ _____

Spousal Support: \$ _____

Child Support: \$ _____

Total Special Expenses/Debts: \$ _____ 0

Partner/Family Members in Household Who Receive Income: (Gross Income per month)

Name	Relationship	Income
_____	_____	\$ _____
_____	_____	\$ _____

If not already listed above, what is your spouse's gross income per month? (Please estimate, if separated.) \$ _____

¹Ordinary expenses that most people have (such as rent, food, utilities) are considered in the basic income calculations and should not be listed here. Other personal and discretionary expenses such as car payments, car insurance, and credit card debts are not considered under our guidelines.

²"Medical" refers to medical expenses that are not covered by insurance. ³"Child Care" refers to costs incurred while a parent is at work.

⁴"Transportation" refers to basic transportation costs to get to and from work (bus tickets, gas).

Have you submitted an application before? Yes No If so, when? _____

By signing below, I certify that all information provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand and agree that if I provide inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or false information on this application, or to any Modest Means Program attorney, I may be disqualified from participation in any and all Referral & Information Services programs, including the Modest Means Program.

Signature _____ Date _____

BELOW IS FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Eligible: Y N Tier: 1 2 3 \$ _____ /hour Notes: _____ (rev. 8/14)

APPLICATION FOR OREGON STATE BAR MODEST MEANS PROGRAM (PAGE 3 of 3)

First Name	Last Name
Phone Number	E-mail Address

Briefly describe the legal matter for which you are seeking assistance:

Example

The Modest Means Project

Information for Volunteer Attorneys

I. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this booklet is to describe the Modest Means Project's goals, policies and procedures. If you have any questions please contact:

Kim Bernhart
Director of Legal Services
Arizona Bar Foundation
(602) 773-3412
Kim.Bernhart@azflse.org

Sandra Constantine
Legal Services Coordinator
Arizona Bar Foundation
(602) 773-3422
Sandra.Constantine@azflse.org

On behalf of the citizens of Arizona who will be assisted by this Project we thank you for your time and assistance.

II. PURPOSE

The Purpose of the Modest Means Project is to provide low-cost legal assistance to people who cannot afford the expertise of attorneys' at the standard rates, but who cannot qualify for free legal services due to income qualifications or restrictions. The Project serves those whose income is less than or equal to 250% of the federal poverty guidelines. The income guidelines are found in the attachments to this booklet. The first priority of the project is to build an awareness of the options available for utilizing an attorney's expertise. The clients will be made aware that the reduced fees are available for a one hour consultation or unbundled legal services. Attorneys are expected to offer brief advice or unbundled services. The price structure is agreed upon for this Project does not anticipate full representation for the clients. A lawyer may offer full representation but it is not the expectation of the Modest Means Project. A lawyer who does offer full representation must maintain the Modest Means rate of \$75 per hour.

III. PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP

This Project operates in partnership with the Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education (Arizona Bar Foundation) and the State Bar of Arizona.

IV. LOCATION AND HOURS

The Modest Means Project takes inquiry calls Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and again from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Each qualified client will receive an attorney list in their requested area of law. This list will contain attorney information, including availability that has been approved by the attorney. After the client receives the information regarding participating attorneys, the client will contact the attorney and set up an appointment at a mutually agreed upon time.

V. REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTORNEY PARTICIPATION

Attorneys who participate in the Modest Means Project must be members in good standing with the State Bar of Arizona and must attend the Foundations of Ethics/Modest Means CLE seminar. Attorneys also must carry malpractice insurance which will cover their Modest Means Project clients. If an attorney does not have their own malpractice insurance or is part of a firm or organization which will not cover the clients from this project the attorney may be able to obtain free malpractice insurance through the Arizona Bar Foundation

VI. TYPES OF CASES

The Modest Means Project offers services in the following areas: bankruptcy, consumer law, criminal misdemeanors, employment law, family law, guardianship, foreclosure, landlord/tenant, immigration and wills. The area of appeals in family law and consumer law are also offered by the Modest Means Project however, they are only offered to clients with a case in Maricopa County.

The Primary aim of the Modest Means Project is to provide brief assistance to people with legal problems in the above substantive areas. The Modest Means attorneys will offer clients assistance and education on how to best handle the legal issues in their own (pro se), as well as limited unbundled services. The attorneys are permitted to provide representation to the clients; however, doing so is outside the expectation of the Modest Means Project. If the attorney decides to represent a client, the project requires the attorneys to do the following:

Maintain the \$75 per hour fee with the client; and

Assure that the client understands they are being offered services beyond the standard scope of the Modest Means Project.

VII. HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

A. Becoming a Modest Means Attorney

Attorneys may participate in the Modest Means Project once they have completed the three requirements for the

- Malpractice insurance
- Must be in good standing with the State Bar of Arizona
- Take the Foundation of Ethics CLE

B. Client Contact

Arizona Bar Foundation staff and volunteers receive client calls, provide information for available attorneys, and are responsible for demographics record-keeping.

C. Client Meetings-Arranged by Modest Means Attorneys

After the client receives the information regarding participating attorneys, the client will contact the attorney and set up an appointment at a mutually agreed upon time.

Each client will be scheduled for minimum for a one-hour appointment (fee allowed is \$75 for an hour). It is within the Modest Means attorney's discretion whether to continue representation after the initial one-hour appointment. The other parties involved should have been determined and a conflict check should be conducted prior to this appointment. During this appointment, the attorney will first interview the client and screen the case for merit. If a potential client has a problem that does not merit legal assistance or falls outside of Project guidelines, the attorney should inform the client of this fact. Attorneys for the Modest Means Project have discretion whether to appear on behalf of clients in litigation of any kind.

VIII. COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Modest Means Project is a rebirth of the 1995 Project operating in Maricopa, (1998) Pima, and (1998) Yuma Counties through the efforts of the State Bar of Arizona Young Lawyers Division. The current Project pays tribute to those who inspired and led the way for the continuation of services to those who currently have no voice in our legal system. If you have any suggestions or comments regarding this program please contact Kim Bernhart at Kim.bernhart@azflse.org.

Thank you for volunteering your time!

Federal Poverty Guidelines

2014 Federal Poverty Guidelines Monthly			
Family Size	125%	150%	250%
1	\$1,216	\$1,459	\$2,431
2	\$1,639	\$1,966	\$3,277
3	\$2,061	\$2,474	\$4,123
4	\$2,485	\$2,981	\$4,969
5	\$2,908	\$3,489	\$5,815
6	\$3,330	\$3,996	\$6,660
7	\$3,754	\$4,504	\$7,506
8	\$4,176	\$5,011	\$8,352

2014 Federal Poverty Guidelines Annually			
Family Size	125%	150%	250%
1	\$14,588	\$17,505	\$29,175
2	\$19,663	\$23,595	\$39,325
3	\$24,738	\$29,685	\$49,475
4	\$29,813	\$35,775	\$59,625
5	\$34,888	\$41,865	\$69,775
6	\$39,963	\$47,955	\$79,925
7	\$45,038	\$54,045	\$90,075
8	\$50,113	\$60,135	\$100,225

The Federal Poverty Guidelines are updated yearly. The above guidelines are to provide you with an example of a participant's income who is at 250% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Please be aware that this information may no longer be up to date and is just an example.



STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN

Your Practice. Our Purpose.®

State Bar of Wisconsin Modest Means Referral Service Client Instruction Sheet

The Modest Means Program of the State Bar of Wisconsin assists people whose income is too high to qualify for free legal services, but too low to pay a lawyer's standard rate. The Modest Means Program is run by the Lawyer Referral and Information Service at the State Bar. When we receive your completed application and documentation, we will try to match you with an attorney who has agreed to consider certain cases at a reduced rate.

The Modest Means Referral Service accepts applications for legal matters in these areas of practice: **Bankruptcy, Criminal Defense (Ordinance violations, Traffic Offenses and Misdemeanors only), Consumer Law, Power of Attorney and Wills, and Family Law.**

To apply for reduced fee legal services:

1. Complete the application form. Include a description of your legal problem. Sign and date the application.
2. Make copies of your income and expenses documentation. Include your wages or benefits such as Social Security disability or SSI, worker's compensation, unemployment or VA benefits. Block out sensitive information such as your Social Security number or account numbers. Send copies of this documentation to us with your application.
3. Send the signed application form and copies of your documentation to our office at:
State Bar of Wisconsin
Modest Means Referral Service
P O Box 7158
Madison, WI 53707-7158
4. If you have questions about the application, please call our office at (888) 529-7599. You can also find additional information about the Modest Means program on our website: www.wisbar.org/modestmeans.

Below is a table that shows the basic income limits that we currently use.

Size of family	Annual Income is at least	Annual Income is not more than
1	\$14,363	\$22,980
2	\$19,388	\$31,020
3	\$24,413	\$39,060
4	\$29,438	\$47,100
5	\$34,463	\$55,140
6	\$39,488	\$63,180
7	\$44,513	\$71,220
8	\$49,538	\$79,260



Reduced Fee Referral Request

Mail completed application form to: State Bar of Wisconsin, Modest Means Panel, P.O. Box 7158, Madison, WI 53707-7158 Questions? Call 1-888-529-7599

Full Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State, Zip _____
Area Code/Phone Number _____
Email _____

Number of adults living in your household _____

Number of children living in your household _____

What is your gross household income per month? (Income from ALL household members must be documented.)

Wages _____

Social Security/SSDI income _____

Unemployment Compensation _____

Child Support _____

Maintenance _____

Worker's Compensation _____

Other (specify source and amount) _____

What are your bank account balances?

Checking _____

Savings _____

Other _____

Do you own any of the items listed below? If so, list the value or balance of each.

Stocks or Bonds? _____

Certificates of Deposit _____

Retirement Accounts _____

Investment Accounts _____

Do you pay child support and/or maintenance? If so what is the amount per month? (Enclose brief documentation)

Please provide a brief description of your legal matter. (Use back of form or attach additional sheet of paper if necessary.)

Name of opposing party

Name of opposing attorney (if known)

Name/location of court (if known)

Where would you like the attorney to be located? (Which county)

Do you need an attorney who speaks a language other than English? If so, what language?

Do you have any special requirements?

List the names of any attorneys you have already contacted or attorneys to whom you would NOT want to be referred

I certify that the information included on this form is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____ Date _____

Don't forget to enclose documentation of income and expenses that you want us to consider.