



LAWYERS NEEDED FOR ONLINE AND TELEPHONE ADVICE PROJECTS

TELEPHONE ADVICE FOR INTAKE HELPLINE CALLERS

- You will sign up in advance for 30-minute phone sessions in a time slot that's convenient for you. You can sign up for sessions regularly, or occasionally as time permits.
- VLP's intake unit will screen callers for eligibility and get basic information about their case and documents if available. Callers who meet the criteria for the advice panel will be scheduled for a 30-minute phone consultation. VLP will advise the callers that they are being referred for advice only, not direct representation.
- VLP will give the attorney signed up for that time slot the information about the case at least a day before the appointment.
- You will then call the client at the scheduled time. You can call from your own office or home, or if you would like to call from VLP, we have space and phones available.
- Afterward, you will give VLP a brief summary (2-3 sentences) of the advice you provided.

As with all our pro bono projects, your work on this pro bono advice panel is covered by VLP's malpractice policy. If you have any questions, please contact Emelia Andres at eandres@vlpnet.org.

ONLINE ADVICE THROUGH MASSACHUSETTS LEGAL ANSWERS ONLINE

Mass Legal Answers Online (MLAO) is a virtual legal advice clinic that is part of the American Bar Association's Free Legal Answers project. It's a secure website where low-income Massachusetts residents post their legal questions, and volunteer attorneys can answer them through the same website. MLAO launched in November 2016 as a project of the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute in cooperation with the Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Boston Bar Association.

Choose the questions you want to answer — at any time, and from any location, that works for you.

This is a limited scope service — the clients know in advance that your assistance is restricted to answering their civil legal question, and that you will not go to court with them or prepare any paperwork.

There is no required time commitment, although we encourage you to answer at least one question per month.

This is open to all attorneys in good standing who are licensed to practice law in Massachusetts, or registered for pro bono status with the Board of Bar Overseers, including in-house counsel and retired attorneys.

Malpractice coverage is provided to volunteer attorneys for legal guidance provided through the website.

Lawyers, please sign up at <https://mass.freelegalanswers.org/>. Click the sign-in button to get to the attorney registration page. If you have any questions, please contact info@masslao.org.