



The State Bar of California's Pro Bono Practice Program (PBPP) is designed to leverage the legal skills, training and experience of attorneys taking a temporary or permanent break from the active practice of law and offer them the opportunity to contribute their valuable legal expertise to assist low-income Californians. Eligible participants will receive a waiver of the active State Bar licensing fee ([State Bar Rule 3.326](#)) and have access to free and reduced rates to attend MCLE programs sponsored by the Continuing Education of the Bar (CEB). The rules can be found at [Title 3, Division 2, Chapter 6 of the State Bar Rules and Regulations](#).

Pursuant to [State Bar Rule 3.327](#), in order to serve as a pro bono practice attorney, an attorney must:

- (A) be licensed in good standing with no disciplinary charges pending at the time of application to the Pro Bono Practice Program;
- (B) at the time of application have been admitted to the practice of law in California for at least three years preceding the application;
- (C) have practiced law or served as a judge in California for at least three of the last five years;
- (D) have no record of public discipline during the three years preceding the application;
- (E) submit an application annually for the Pro Bono Practice Program; and
- (F) be certified by the State Bar as a pro bono practice attorney.

To apply to the Pro Bono Practice Program:

- Contact and make arrangements with a [qualified legal services provider](#), or a no-fee or pro bono panel as part of a State Bar certified [lawyer referral service](#), or a [court-based self-help center](#) that complies with [California Rule of Court 10.960](#);
- Complete and sign the Pro Bono Practice Program Application & Sworn Statement (page 2);
- Have the Declaration by Qualified Legal Services Provider, State Bar Certified Lawyer Referral Service, or Court-based Self-help Center signed by the director or supervising attorney (page 3); and
- Submit **both completed** forms (pages 2 and 3) to the State Bar (be sure to keep a copy for your records).

Submit forms (pages 2 and 3) by email:
programdevelopment@calbar.ca.gov

or mail:

The State Bar of California
Office of Access & Inclusion
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Deadline to apply is February 1, 2023.

Read **frequently asked questions** at
<https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Access-to-Justice/Pro-Bono/Pro-Bono-Practice-Program>;
or for more information contact
the Office of Access & Inclusion at
programdevelopment@calbar.ca.gov or
call 415-538-2252

Application and Sworn Statement

I understand that I must:

1. Be an active attorney licensed by The State Bar of California to participate in the Pro Bono Practice Program;
2. Complete a [transfer form](#) to change from inactive to active status, if necessary;
3. Reapply to the Pro Bono Practice Program annually;
4. Comply with Minimum Continuing Legal Education ([MCLE requirements](#));
5. Have practiced law, served as a judge, or engaged in a combination of the practice of law and service as a judge in California for a minimum of three out of the five years immediately preceding the date of this application;
6. Have been admitted to the practice law in the United States at least three years preceding the date of this application;
7. Have no record of public discipline for the three years preceding this application;
8. Read and abide by the Rules of Professional Conduct and provisions of the State Bar Act (Business & Professions Code, Section 6000 et seq.) relating to the professional duties and obligations of an attorney;
9. Neither ask for nor accept compensation of any kind for the legal services authorized; and
10. Not engage in the practice of law nor intend to practice law during the applicable year, except in association with the qualified legal services provider, the State Bar certified lawyer referral service or the court based self-help center named on page 3.

PRO BONO PRACTICE PROGRAM APPLICANT

Name : _____ State Bar Number: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ CA Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please check applicable box.

Add name of the organization on the line below.

- Qualified legal service provider
- Certified lawyer referral service
- Court-based self-help center

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this _____ day of _____, 20__ at _____, California

Signature: _____

Remember: Submit both signed, completed forms (pages 2 and 3).

**Declaration by Qualified Legal Services Provider,
State Bar Certified Lawyer Referral Service, or Court-based self-help center**

(Please have the director or supervising attorney of the program you have selected sign the following declaration and submit to the State Bar.)

I have reviewed this application and confirm that the applicant will provide pro bono legal services with the qualified legal services provider, State Bar certified lawyer referral service, or court-based self-help center named below:

Director or Supervising Attorney: _____

Title: _____

Name of Entity: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ CA Zip: _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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Resources

Waiver of annual license fees pursuant to [State Bar Rule 3.326](#)

Eligibility Requirements pursuant to [State Bar Rule 3.327](#)

Responsibilities of a pro bono practice attorney pursuant to [State Bar Rule 3.329](#)

Responsibilities of a qualified legal services provider or certified lawyer referral service or court-based self-help center pursuant to [State Bar Rule 3.330](#)