

## **Do You Need Legal Services but Cannot Afford the Fees?**

Now, more than ever, citizens of our community are struggling to make ends meet. A new segment of our population—the working poor—make too much to qualify for pro bono or Legal Aid yet cannot afford legal services at regular market rates.

Maybe we can help.

If you qualify, we will give you the name and contact information for an attorney who has agreed to provide legal services at reduced rates.

To see if you qualify, please contact Wendy Cozby at 615.242.6546 or [wendy.cozby@nashvillebar.org](mailto:wendy.cozby@nashvillebar.org)



### **Nashville Bar Association Modest Means Initiative**

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## **Modest Means Initiative**

# **Reduced-fee Legal Services for Qualifying Individuals**



*Access to justice for the working poor*

A program of the  
**Nashville Bar Association**  
Lawyer Referral & Information Service

## What is the Nashville Bar Association Modest Means Initiative?

Private attorneys who participate in the Nashville Bar Association's Modest Means Initiative (MMI) have agreed to charge substantially reduced fees for legal work performed on behalf of clients referred through this program.



If you qualify for the program, your Modest Means panel attorney will charge you no more than **\$75 per hour** and may charge an initial **retainer fee of up to \$300**.

This program is made possible by a generous grant from the **Nashville Bar Foundation** and is administered through the NBA Lawyer Referral & Information Service (LRIS).

**We do not have free attorneys.**

**You must have sufficient resources for any services you receive.**

## Who is Eligible?

Eligibility is based on the type of legal matter you have, your income and assets, and the availability of participating attorneys.

Our attorneys offer legal services in the following areas:

**Domestic Relations**

**Consumer Debt (other than Bankruptcy)**

**Landlord/Tenant**

**Small Business Creation and Management**

Your monthly income must fall between 200% and 250% of the Federal Poverty Level (see *chart at right*), and you cannot have more than \$5,000 of liquid assets.

To see if you are qualified for the program, you need to complete an application that you can get from our office by calling Wendy Cozby at 615.242.6546 or going online at:

[www.nashvillebar.org/skjdfwe](http://www.nashvillebar.org/skjdfwe)

You will be contacted by telephone after your application has been reviewed.

**CALL: 615.242.6546  
for more information**

## What Does It Cost?

If you qualify, you will need to pay an **administrative fee of \$25** and will receive the name and contact information of one of our attorneys.

You will be charged up to **\$75 per hour** for services provided by your attorney.

Your attorney may require a **retainer (a deposit against fees paid upfront) of up to \$300**.

*Monthly Income Levels are based on the number of people living in your household.*

Family Size*	Monthly Income Range
1	\$1,805–\$2,256
2	\$2,428–\$3,035
3	\$3,052–\$3,815
4	\$3,675–\$4,594
5	\$4,298–\$5,373

\*Call if more than 5 family members live in your household.

*We cannot guarantee we will have an attorney for you even if you qualify, or that any attorney we refer you to will agree to take your case. Both you and the attorney have the right to choose whether or not to accept the referral.*

**Nashville Bar Association**

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