

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN | MODEST MEANS PROGRAM APPLICATION

Modest Means services are offered in five legal topic areas: Bankruptcy (Chapter 7 only), Consumer Law, Criminal Law (Expungements and Driver's License Restoration only), Family Law, Probate & Elder Law and Real Property. Modest Means attorneys may charge an hourly fee of no more than \$75, or offer a service agreement consisting of a reasonable monthly payment plan. A retainer fee of up to \$750 may be required. Bankruptcy is limited to Chapter 7 filings and is capped at a fixed fee of \$500.

To apply for assistance, complete this application, providing a confidential email address and/or a telephone number where we can reach you from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. We will contact you after your application has been processed to let you know whether a panel member is available to handle your matter. All referrals will be made by telephone. If the attorney determines that there is a conflict based upon review of your application, you will be referred to a different attorney by an attorney referral staff member, if available.

Our attorney referral staff will collect a \$25 Administrative fee to match you with a Modest Means attorney. With your consent the attorney will contact you within two business days to make an appointment for an initial consultation of up to 25 minutes about your legal issue. The attorney has the final say in the financial qualification process.

General Information: (*Required Information)

*First Name: *Last Name:

*Address:

*City: * State: * Zip Code:

*Phone: *E-mail:

*County in which you need assistance:

*Legal Topic Area: (Please choose the area of law you need assistance with. Select all that apply.)

Bankruptcy

Bankruptcy—Personal

Consumer Law

Automobile—New Car

Automobile—Used Car

Consumer Goods

Consumer Contracts

Credit Reports

Creditor—Collection

Debtor—Garnishment Defense

Identity Theft

Payday & Predatory loans

Repossession

Utility Disputes

Criminal Law

Expungement

Driver's License Restoration/
Appeals

Family Law

Adoption

Annulment

Appeals

Child Support/Modification

Custody/Parenting Time

Divorce/Separation

Domestic Abuse/PPO

Emancipation of Minor

Grandparent/Third-Party
Visitation

Name Change

Paternity

Post-Judgment Enforcement

Separate Maintenance

Probate & Elder Law

Conservatorship/Guardianship

Estate Planning/
Disability Planning

Probate Estate Administration

Probate Litigation

Trust Administration

Real Property Law

Deed Preparation

Mortgage/Land Contract
Defense

Residential Purchase/Sale

Tenant—Mobile Home

Tenant—Residential

Case Information

*Briefly describe your legal issue: (300 character limit)

Opposing Party/Business name(s):

County in which you need legal assistance or if you already have a court case, which court are you in?

Next Court Date: Judge:

Opposing Counsel/Law firm:

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Total Household Income, Wages and Benefits

Please let us know total monthly income from all household members. Your Modest Means attorney may require proof of this information.

All income should be listed as *monthly* income.

Average Wages (monthly)

Alimony (received)

Child Support (received)

Veteran's Benefits

Social Security

Retirement Income/Pension

Other Income Sources

Total Gross Monthly Income

Household Size Information

*Number of adults living in your household

*Number of children living in your household

*Total Household Size

Terms for Service:

- I understand that this is not a free service, and that I have an ability to pay for the legal services I receive.
- I will also be responsible for the filing fees and other court fees or costs.
- I will pay the \$25 administrative fee to be matched with an attorney.
- I understand that the attorney will provide me with up to a 25-minute initial consultation at no charge.
- I understand that any agreement and/or payment for services beyond the consultation is between me and the attorney.
- I will pay the fixed \$500 fee to the attorney for my Chapter 7 Bankruptcy matter.
- * I understand that the Modest Means Program will share the information I provide with a Modest Means Program attorney, and that the attorney may contact me unless the box below is checked.
 - I do not have a safe number where I can receive calls.
 - I prefer the initial contact to be via email.
 - I will call the Modest Means Program at (800) 968-0738, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- * I understand that if I provide false information on this application I may not be allowed to participate in the Modest Means Program.
- * By entering my name below, I certify that all information is truthful and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

*Signature:

CONFIDENTIAL OR SENSITIVE INFORMATION about your legal matter should not be shared until you meet with an attorney in person. Lawyers have an ethical duty to avoid conflict of interest. There is no attorney-client relationship until an attorney agrees to represent you.

Mail application form by U.S. Postal Service:

Attention: Modest Means Program
State Bar of Michigan
Michael Franck Building
306 Townsend Street
Lansing MI 48933-2012

Email to MMLRS@michbar.org

Total Assets and Other Resources:

Please let us know what assets you have.

*Checking Account Balance

*Savings Account Balance

Do you own or rent your home?

Do you own any property other than your primary residence?

Yes No

Preliminary eligibility is based on qualifying legal issue, income and liquid assets, and household size. Your attorney will make the final financial eligibility determination after your first meeting. You may request that the Modest Means Program review financial eligibility, but the attorney's determination on eligibility carries great weight. Complete and submit this form to receive your Modest Means referral.