

Details of Free Legal Aid Scheme

The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 has been enforced and the following persons are entitled to free legal aid for filing or defending a case in any court of law

1. A member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe
2. A victim of trafficking in human beings or beggar
3. A woman or a child
4. A mentally ill or otherwise disabled person
5. A victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster etc
6. An industrial workman
7. Person in custody, including in a protective Home, Juvenile Home, Psychiatric Hospital or Nursing Home etc
8. A person whose annual income from all sources does not exceed Rupees Fifty Thousand (Rs.50, 000/-)

The Legal Services could be provided in any of the following modes

1. By payment of court fee, process fee, expenses of witnesses, preparation of the paper book, lawyers fee and all other charges payable or incurred in connection with any legal proceedings
2. Through representation by a legal practitioner in legal proceedings
3. By supplying certified copies of judgments, order notes or evidence and other documents in legal proceedings
4. By preparation of appeal, paper book, including printing, typing and translation of documents in legal proceedings
5. By drafting of legal documents
6. By giving legal advice on any legal matter
7. Through Mediation Centers or Family Counseling Centers

Various Amendment Acts

- The Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002

- National Legal Services Authority Rules, 1995
- Permanent Lok Adalat (Other Terms and Conditions of appointment of Chairman and other persons) Rules, 2003
- Punjab Legal Services Authority Rules, 1996
- ADR Rules, 2003
- High Court Legal Services Committee, Regulations, 1998

Recent Amendment

Particulars	Description
Name of the Scheme	Free and Competent Legal Services Scheme – 2010 (Regulations)
Sponsored by	Both: Central & State Government
Funding Pattern	National Legal Services Authority, New Delhi as well as State Government finances the scheme.
Ministry/ Department	Punjab Legal Services Authority
Description	Under the scheme, budget is provided to meet the expenses of Counsel fee and to hold LokAdalat.
Beneficiaries	Individual,Family,Community,
Benefits	
Benefit Type	Others,
Other Benefits	Free Legal Aid
Details of Beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe • A victim of trafficking in human beings or begar as referred to in article 23 of the Constitution. • Women/Child • A mentally ill or otherwise disabled person. • A person under circumstances of undeserved want such as being a victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster or • An industrial workman or • In custody, including custody in a protective home within the meaning of clause-g of section 2 of the Immoral Traffic

	<p>Prevention Act, 1956, or in a juvenile home within the meaning of clause-j of section 2 of the juvenile Justice Act 1986, or in a psychiatric hospital or psychiatric nursing home with in the meaning of clause-g of section 2 of the Mental Health Act, 1987 or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In receipt of annual income less than Rs. 1,50,000/- .
Eligibility criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Persons belonging to General category having income below Rs. 1,50,000/- are entitled to get free Legal Aid. - All other beneficiaries are entitled for legal service without income ceiling.
How to Avail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fill in the Legal Aid Form-cum-Affidavit for seeking free Legal Aid. The form is available with the Chairman/Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Kapurthala as well as in the office of Assistant District Attorney (Legal Services), Kapurthala.

District Legal Services Authority, Kapurthala

The Learned District & Sessions Judge, Kapurthala is the Chairman of the District Legal Services Authority, Kapurthala, and the Judicial Officer in the rank of Civil Judge (Sr. Div.), Kapurthala is the Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority, Kapurthala.

Lawyers are being appointed for providing free legal service to the poor and needy. District Legal Services Authority, Kapurthala is organizing monthly Lok Adalats on every last working Saturday of the month. In addition, Kapurthala Special Lok Adalats are being organized as per schedule given by the Punjab Legal Service Authority.