

You have been charged with a crime

If you've been detained by the Police, you can talk to a lawyer through the PDLA (Police Detention Legal Assistance service)



Check to see if you're eligible for legal aid (a loan to pay for your legal costs) and get help filling in a legal aid application

Talk to a duty lawyer at your nearest district court

Ask for help at a Citizens' Advice Bureau

Send in your application



We'll look at your your application within 24 hours

We'll send you a letter letting you know our decision (or if we need more information) and what you should do next

Your application is approved

Work with your legal aid lawyer on your case



You must meet any conditions of your legal aid grant, such as making interim repayments

Your lawyer will invoice us directly

Once your case is closed, we'll send you a letter letting you know what to do next, such as making any repayments

Your application is declined

You can ask for the decision to be reviewed

Call us on 0800 2 LEGAL AID
0800 253 425

To talk about your debt, contact the Debt Management Group
LegalAidDebt@justice.govt.nz
0800 600 090