

# GLAC



## Gallatin Legal Assistance Clinic

*Providing direct legal assistance to Montana's low-income families*

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### ***What is GLAC?***

The Gallatin Legal Assistance Clinic (GLAC) is an independent program organized by a group of Gallatin County volunteer legal professionals. GLAC provides free legal assistance to people with limited income who are representing themselves in family law legal matters.

The legal assistance clinics take place on a regular schedule and are staffed by volunteer attorneys who provide their services at no cost to you or to GLAC. This is why GLAC services are only available to people who meet certain income requirements.

People who wish to receive services of an attorney through GLAC must follow some steps first. Those steps will improve your chance of getting the help you need and from whom you need it. You will receive information about what you need to do after you make an appointment.

GLAC is not a self-help legal service center. You should first visit the [Gallatin County Self-Help Law Center](#) to receive assistance in finding available resources, information or paperwork about your family law matter. See below panel for information about the Self-Help Law Center and other legal resources.

### ***What types of legal issues can GLAC help me with and how?***

GLAC provides legal assistance only in family law matters. This includes dissolutions (divorce) and matters relating to children of a marriage or relationship (parenting plans and child support). Volunteer attorneys can answer your questions and give you advice about your legal options; review and answer questions about the legal paperwork you have already prepared or assist you in deciding on the correct information to include in the parts of your documents you aren't sure about. You cannot receive services from GLAC if you are already represented by a lawyer. If you were previously represented by a lawyer and aren't sure if you still are, make sure you mention this when calling to make an appointment.

### ***How do I qualify for GLAC services?***

Because GLAC services are provided to you for free by volunteer attorneys, you must be income eligible. When you call to make an appointment, you go through a brief financial screening before you are able to schedule a time.

### ***What will happen at the Legal Clinic?***

Legal Assistance Clinics are scheduled on a regular basis, but how often and where the Clinics take place may change from time to time. When you call to make an appointment, you will be informed about available dates and times as well as the Clinic location.

When calling to make an appointment, make sure you know for certain when you cannot make an appointment. If you do not show up for your appointment, you may not get a chance to reschedule.

Montana Legal Services Association (MLSA) provides financial screening for the GLAC. The number below is for appointments only. If you wish to contact MLSA for other legal assistance, call the MLSA Helpline (see below).

When calling to make an appointment, have your income information available. You cannot make an appointment with an attorney at GLAC until you have been financially screened.

### ***Can I come back to the Legal Clinic for additional help?***

You may return to the clinic for follow-up appointments to help you complete your case, but only if you need the advice of an attorney. If you have questions about what to do next or need additional paperwork, visit the Self-Help Law Center. You'll still need to call and make an appointment for GLAC return visits.

### ***Can I just walk into the Legal Clinic? How do I make an appointment?***

You must have an appointment to receive services from an attorney. The dates and locations of the Clinics vary from month to month and attorneys are available based on the appointment schedule. **To make an appointment call 406.543.8343, Extension 207.**

### ***Are there other helpful hints if I am considering a family law case and making an appointment with the GLAC?***

Yes there are.

- If you are in danger, do not wait for a Clinic. Contact MLSA or your local domestic violence program. (See below).
- It's worth it to wait. If you are not sure of your legal options or what might happen if you take certain legal actions, you might be better off waiting to talk with an attorney. It can be more difficult to undo something you've already done.
- If you have been served with legal paperwork or have a deadline prior to an available clinic date, do not wait until your appointment to take action. Consult with an attorney. If you cannot afford an attorney, visit the Gallatin Self-Help Law Center.
- If you have not filed a case but are planning to, visit the Gallatin County Self-Help Law Center first to obtain and receive assistance in completing family law forms. Clinic attorneys will help you with the parts you aren't certain about. Completing paperwork first allows the attorney more time to help you with your legal issue on the day of the Clinic.
- If you are seeking a dissolution of marriage (divorce) with children or a parenting plan, you should contact Child Support Enforcement Division (CSED) right away to obtain a child support order. Contact information is below.

### ***What are some other helpful resources for my family law case?***

#### **[Gallatin Self-Help Law Center](#)**

615 South 16th Ave.  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
(406)582-2158

#### **[Community Mediation Center](#)**

(Low Income Family Mediation)  
101 East Mendenhall Street, Suite A  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
406-522-8442

Haven—Bozeman

Domestic Violence Hotline  
406-586-4111

#### **[Montana Legal Services Association](#)**

Helpline  
1-800-666-6899

Child Support Enforcement Division  
Region 4 (Butte)  
406-497-6600