



**Legal aid,**  
a network at your service  
[www.csj.qc.ca](http://www.csj.qc.ca)



## ARE MINORS ELIGIBLE TO LEGAL AID?

Minors (under 18 years of age) who need legal representation may be eligible for legal aid. Just make an appointment with a legal aid lawyer to have their admissibility checked.

### Financial eligibility

The following factors are taken into account in determining whether a minor is eligible:

- the minor's income and liquid assets;
- income, liquid assets and other assets of the parents who have custody of the minor or, as the case may be, of the person who has custody under a court order.

### Interests opposed to those of the parents

Where the minor's interests compete with those of his or her father, mother or person with custody under a court order, only the income and liquid assets of the minor will be taken into account. In such a case, the cost of services rendered could be claimed from the parents or person with custody of the minor.

When the minor requires services that come under the Youth Protection Act (CQLR, c. P-34.1) or the Youth Criminal Justice Act (S.C. 2002, c.1), only the income and liquid assets of the minor will be taken into account and there will not be any claim for reimbursement from the parents or custodian.

### Services covered

Services are covered in the following cases :

- cases relating to family law;
- cases regarding tutorship;
- cases where the court exercises powers under the *Youth Protection Act* ;
- when a minor faces proceedings before a court under the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*.

And, depending on the circumstances, services could be covered in other situations.

\*\*\*\*\*

Don't hesitate to have your eligibility for legal aid evaluated by making an appointment at a legal aid office near you.

To find the contact information for your legal aid office, please visit our website at [www.csj.qc.ca](http://www.csj.qc.ca).

**Legal  
Brief \***

**Vol. 12**

**Number 2**

**February 2020**

Text prepared by  
Commission des services  
juridiques

**Contact Us**

Commission des  
services juridiques  
Communications Department  
2 Complexe Desjardins  
East Tower  
Suite 1404  
P.O. Box 123  
Succursale Desjardins  
Montreal, Québec  
H5B 1B3

Telephone : 514 873-3562  
Fax : 514 864-2351

[www.csj.qc.ca](http://www.csj.qc.ca)

\* The information set out in this document is not a legal interpretation.

The masculine is used to designate persons solely in order to simplify the text.