



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



## Legal Brief\*

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### Better Access to Legal Aid

If you need the services of a lawyer and want to check your eligibility for legal aid, you should know that since December 29, 2022, regulatory changes may simplify the processing of your application.

In fact, if you meet the following conditions, you will no longer have to submit any documents demonstrating your financial situation:

- You were declared financially eligible within the twelve months preceding your new application;
- You sign a declaration stating that your financial situation and that of the other persons whose financial situation is considered and that affects your eligibility have not changed.

For example, on September 25, 2022, Leo was declared financially eligible for legal aid and was represented by a lawyer from the Chicoutimi legal aid office in a case involving custody of his child. On January 12, 2023, he once again requires the services of his lawyer and files a new application for legal aid.

Since Leo was declared financially eligible within the twelve months preceding his new application and since he declares that his situation and that of the other persons whose financial situation is considered has not changed, he will not have to provide details of his financial situation again.

In other cases, unless requested by the legal aid office, you will not be required to submit any documents to establish your financial situation.

In addition, you will be able to choose to file your application at the legal aid office near where you reside or at the legal aid office in the judicial district where the legal proceedings for which you wish to receive legal services are taking place.

For example, if you live in Lévis and are facing criminal charges in the district of Alma, you will be able to file an application at either the Lévis legal aid office or the Alma legal aid office.

These recent regulatory changes regarding the processing of financial eligibility for legal aid will facilitate your access to justice.

For more information on this subject, don't hesitate to contact the legal aid office nearest you, where one of our lawyers will be able to answer your questions.

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Don't hesitate to have your eligibility for legal aid evaluated by making an appointment at a legal aid office near you. You can also check your eligibility online [here](http://www.csj.qc.ca).

To find the contact information for your legal aid office, please click on the following link:  
[www.csj.qc.ca/](http://www.csj.qc.ca/).

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\* 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.