

MONROE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION MODEST MEANS PROGRAM

THIS IS NOT A FREE SERVICE

**THERE ARE NO ATTORNEYS AT
MONROE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION**

Client Information Guide and Application

The Modest Means Program provides the client with a half-hour consultation with an attorney, if available, for a \$50.00 fee. The \$50.00 fee is non-refundable and is payable directly to the attorney.

If you decide to retain the attorney after the initial half-hour consultation, the fees are then charged at a reduced rate.

Monroe County Bar Association (MCBA) will determine eligibility. Please complete the application in its entirety. Financial eligibility is determined by **household** income. Include three consecutive paystubs per working person, proof of income such as child support, social security, unemployment, disability and government benefits for all members of your household. Without proof of income we cannot process your request.

Upon receipt of the application and income verification documentation, we will review your request and contact you within five business days if you are eligible for our service. If you do qualify, we will refer you to an attorney through our Modest Means Referral Program.

Remember that not all cases are accepted. In addition to income limitations, only specific types of cases, as outline on the “Pricing for Legal Representation and Preparation” sheet in this packet will be accepted. As you read through this guide and application, you will learn more of what types of cases may be accepted. In some cases, there may not be attorneys available for your specific needs. We will work hard to contact you immediately should this be the situation.

******NOTE******

**IF YOU PLAN TO FILE A PETITION FOR WAIVER OF COSTS,
YOU CANNOT UTILIZE THE MODEST MEANS PROGRAM**

PLEASE KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS – PAGE 1

MONROE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION MODEST MEANS PROGRAM

Mission: The mission of the Modest Means Program (MMP) is to provide legal services at a substantially reduced rate to individuals who fall within the financial guidelines of the MMP (237% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines).

Overview: The MMP has been developed to assist clients who do not qualify for legal aid through North Penn Legal Services (NPLS), or through the MCBA Pro Bono Limited Services Program (MCPB) but cannot afford an attorney at regular attorney fees. The client must complete the MCBA Modest Means Application to determine eligibility for MMP. If you qualify, you will be referred to an attorney who is a member of MCBA and a participant in the MMP. You will receive representation or have documents prepared at a reduced rate, as determined by MCBA. If you do not qualify for the MMP you will be referred out of the program to an attorney who participates in our Find a Lawyer Program (FAL) through the normal procedures of this service.

Eligibility Guidelines*

Income is based on the Federal Poverty Guideline which is subject to change
(Amounts are the maximum yearly gross income allowable through this program)

Persons in the Household	237% of Poverty Guidelines* (Annualized Adjust)
1	\$ 37,825
2	\$ 51,287
3	\$ 64,748
4	\$ 78,210
5	\$ 91,672
6	\$105,133
7	\$118,595
8	\$132,056
For households with more than 8 persons, add \$13,462 for each additional person.	

***These figures are subject to change.**

PLEASE KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS – PAGE 2

MONROE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
MODEST MEANS PROGRAM
Application & Financial Information

Please print clearly and fill out the application completely. Email a scanned copy or fax the completed and signed application along with all documentation supporting household income to: Email – info2@monroebar.org; Fax – 570.424.8234

Please note: All information provided will be treated as confidential communications made for the purpose of facilitating the rendering of professional legal services to you. We will preserve the confidentiality of all such information unless otherwise required by law.

First Name	M.I.	Last Name
Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Home Phone	Cell Phone (No Texting Available)	Email Address

Please provide a brief description of your legal matter:	
Name of other party involved:	
What is the other party's attorney's name, if known?	
Have you consulted another attorney?	
If yes, what is the name of the attorney?	
Have you hired this attorney?	

Initials _____

**INCOMPLETE AND UNSIGNED
APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE PROCESSED**

Pricing for Legal Representation and Preparation - 2026 Rates

YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL FILING FEES

Check and initial the category for which you are requesting representation. Case type categories not listed will not be accepted into the MMP Program.

Case Category	Cost for Service*	Check & Initial
DEBTOR / CREDITOR		
Bankruptcy – Chapter 7	\$800.00	
Collections		
Defense of collections through hearing before Magisterial District Judge	\$250.00	
Work post-hearing – Per hour	\$125.00	
CRIMINAL LAW		
Traffic Violations/Summary Offense before a Magisterial District Judge	\$150.00	
EMPLOYMENT LAW		
Unemployment Compensation Claim for Benefits		
Through decision by Referee	\$250.00	
Post-Referee hearing work – Per hour	\$125.00	
Hiring Issues – Employees only		
Driver's License Suspension	\$250.00	
Expungements - PA	\$250.00	
Pardons - PA	\$300.00	
ESTATE LAW		
Estate Planning		
Simple Wills – Individual / Husband & Wife	\$100.00/\$150.00	
Power of Attorney – Individual / Husband & Wife	\$100.00/\$150.00	
Living Wills – Individual / Husband & Wife	\$65.00/\$95.00	
FAMILY LAW		
Family Law – <i>Dependency cases will not be accepted</i>		
Child Support – Domestic Relations Conference	\$150.00	
Child Support – Post-Conference Work - Per hour	\$125.00	
Child Custody – Conciliation	\$250.00	
Child Custody – Post-Conciliation work for exceptions - Per hour	\$125.00	
Divorce – Simple Uncontested / No Settlement of Assets (Including real estate, retirement funds, investments)	\$550.00	
Divorce - Change to Contested / No Settlement of Assets – Per hour (Including real estate, retirement funds, investments)	\$125.00	
HOUSING		
Landlord Tenant Disputes – Tenant Only		
Hearing before Magisterial District Judge	\$250.00	
Post-MDJ Hearing – Per hour	\$125.00	
Mortgage Foreclosure – Homeowner Only		
Mortgage Conciliation	\$150.00	
Post-Mortgage Conciliation Work – Per hour	\$125.00	

*Please note: The fees listed above are not inclusive of the court cost, filing fees and other related expenses that may be applicable. All court costs, filing fees and other related expenses will be at your (the client) expense and will be in addition to the attorney fees listed above. Be sure to discuss the potential additional costs/fees with your attorney.

Initials _____

MONROE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

MODEST MEANS PROGRAM

Application – Financial Information

First Name		M.I.	Last Name	
Total Number in Household: (Adult (18+ Older)		Minors (17+ Under)		
Checking Account Balance	\$	Savings Account Balance	\$	
Investment Account Balance	\$	Real Estate Owned Value	\$	
Make, Model & Year of Vehicle – Owned or Leased (Circle one)		Value \$		

Income Information – Applicant Only

<u>Income Per Month</u> <u>Include Income from all Sources</u>		<u>Expenses Per Month</u> <i>Do not include food, insurance, or utilities – these are considered ordinary expenses and are included in the basic income calculations.</i>	
Wages (Gross—Before Taxes): Employer Name -	\$	Medical (Not covered by insurance)	\$
Spousal Support:	\$	Child care (Incurred only due to work)	\$
Child Support:	\$	Car Payment or Lease Payment	\$
Veteran Benefits:	\$	Spousal Support or Alimony	\$
Unemployment:	\$	Child Support	\$
SSI/SSD:	\$	Mortgage or Rent Payment	\$
Public Assistance – Including Food stamps, utility assistance, medical, etc.	\$	Transportation costs to work – include gas, tolls, and bus tickets	\$
Retirement Income:	\$	Work Related Expenses - tools, equipment, required uniforms	\$
Investment Income:	\$		\$
Rental Income:	\$		\$
Other Income: (Please specify type)	\$		\$
TOTAL INCOME:	\$	TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$

<u>Others in Household - Income Per Month</u> (Verification of Income Required)	
Relationship & Source of Income	Income
TOTAL OF OTHER INCOME	\$

I, _____, verify that the information provided in the foregoing application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I further verify that all documents submitted have not been falsified or altered in any way. I am aware that should any information be found to be false I will no longer qualify for the Modest Means Program. Therefore, I will be responsible for immediate payment of all services rendered at the attorney's regular rates. I further acknowledge that pages 3 and 4 of this application will be forwarded to the attorney who may be able to assist me. I further acknowledge that I will pay a \$50.00 consultation fee to the attorney assisting me. **I acknowledge information requested by the Monroe County Bar Association and not provided within ten (10) days of request will result in the rejection of my application. I further acknowledge that the Monroe County Bar Association or attorney may require me to reapply if I do not provide all information requested by either party within thirty (30) days.**

Signature: _____

Date: _____

► Please remember to include verification of income for all household members (i.e., three current consecutive pay stubs per person in the household, copies of child support orders, social security award letters, unemployment award letters and all other income. Your application will NOT be processed without all required documentation.►