

## Am I eligible for CLP?

To be eligible you must:

- be a child under the age of 18 (unless you are 21 or younger and seeking special education services)
- have a disability (the child does not need to be receiving disability benefits or have an official diagnosis to be eligible)
- be within certain income and asset limits

If you believe your child has a disability, our intake staff can determine your child's eligibility for the Children's Law Project.

If you are a *minor* and not living with your parent or guardian, you may call our intake staff yourself to see if you are eligible for the CLP.

**The Children's Law Project serves the following counties:**

Albany  
Columbia  
Fulton  
Greene  
Montgomery  
Rensselaer  
Schenectady  
Schoharie

## Children's Law Project

Legal Aid Society of Northeastern NY  
55 Colvin Ave., Albany, NY 12206

### Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
The Children's Law Project has open intake throughout the day, but the best time to call is between 11:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Please contact the LASNNY office nearest to you.

1-800-462-2922 or

### Albany:

518-462-6765

Fax: 518-427-8352

### Amsterdam:

518-842-9466

Fax: 518-427-8352

For more information, or to make a donation, visit us on the web at:

[www.lasnnny.org](http://www.lasnnny.org)

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**JUSTICE FOR ALL CAMPAIGN**



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We can help.

# Children's Law Project



# Legal Aid Society

NORTHEASTERN NEW YORK

# What is the Children's Law Project?

The Children's Law Project provides legal advice and assistance for low-income children with disabilities. We focus on getting them the services they need for a free and appropriate public education, protecting their rights and making sure they are treated fairly in cases of school discipline, and assisting children who are seeking Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

We also have educational materials available and the CLP attorney is available to give presentations on these and other issues affecting children. Please contact your nearest LASNNY office for more information.

## Some Kinds of Cases We Handle

### **Supplemental Security Income**

Children with disabilities may be eligible to receive SSI benefits. Due to the different considerations used by the Social Security Administration, many children who qualify for an IEP or 504 plan will not qualify for SSI.

CLP can provide legal assistance to your child through the application and/or appeal process and we can check to be sure your child's benefit amount is correct.

### **Special Education**

Children with disabilities may be eligible to get special services or programs at school for free.

### **Individualized Education Plan (IEP):**

If you believe that your child's disability affects his or her ability to learn, she may qualify for an IEP. There are 13 different disability classifications which qualify for an IEP.

An IEP is a document that identifies your child's individual needs and includes accommodations to address those needs. Possibilities include a smaller classroom setting, a classroom aide, changes in homework or testing or special transportation.

### **Section 504 plan:**

If your child does not qualify for an IEP but has a disability that sub-

stantially limits at least one major life activity (such as walking, breathing, speaking, seeing or hearing, or learning) he or she may still be eligible to receive accommodations.

Some examples of accommodations available under a 504 Plan are enlarged font on assignments, additional testing time, modified class schedule, seating arrangements, use of medication, or use of assistive technology.

In either of these situations, we may be able to investigate the case, make a referral to the school district for the services, and/or represent your child at special education meetings with the school district.

### **School Discipline**

Students with disabilities have special rights if the school is considering discipline. Let us know if you have concerns about your child's suspension or expulsion, behavioral intervention plan, or the school's use of physical restraints.

### **Other School Issues**

We also offer legal assistance to children with disabilities on issues involving school transportation, residency or special education placements, and bullying.