



The information in this resource is educational and intended for informational purposes only. It does not constitute legal advice, nor does it substitute for legal advice. Any information provided is not intended to apply to a specific legal entity, individual or case. NCVLI does not warrant, express or implied, any information it may provide, nor is it creating an attorney-client relationship with the recipient.

Explorations and Innovations in Non-Lawyer Justice System Assistance

To increase access to legal services, many jurisdictions across the country have considered adopting structures that authorize alternatives to lawyers providing some types of legal services or support in connection with legal matters. The structure and scope of programs adopted or analyzed by jurisdictions vary, with different states at different stages of investigating the options and implementing programs. This resource provides a snapshot of select jurisdictions' approaches to exploring the possibility of non-lawyers providing some types of assistance in connection with the justice systems.¹

Jurisdictions with Established Programs for Licensed Non-Lawyer Practitioners

State	Program/License	Select Highlights	Link(s) for More Information
Utah	Licensed Paralegal Practitioner	Practice areas include: some specifically authorized family law matters, forcible entry and detainer matters, and some debt	https://www.utahbar.org/licensed-paralegal-practitioner/ https://www.utcourts.gov/resources/rules/ucja/view.html?rule=ch14/08%20Special%20Practice/USB14-802.html

¹ The American Bar Association's Center for Innovation has produced an interactive online Legal Innovation Regulatory Survey that includes additional related information and which will continue to be updated over time. See Am. Bar Ass'n, Center for Innovation, *Legal Innovation Regulatory Survey* (Aug. 2019), <http://legalinnovationregulatorysurvey.info/> (last accessed June 3, 2020). The Chair of the ABA's Center for Innovation in February 2020 submitted a Revised Report addressing access to legal services and referencing some of the programs mentioned here, calling for the consideration of innovations and analysis of data relating to the delivery of legal services and other programs designed to address unmet legal needs. Am. Bar Ass'n, Center for Innovation, Standing Committee on the Delivery of Legal Services, Standing Committee on Ethics and Professional Responsibility, Standing Committee on Professional Regulation, Standing Committee on Public Protection in the Provision of Legal Services, Report to the House of Delegates, Revised Resolution (Feb. 2020), <https://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/images/centerforinnovation/r115resandreport.pdf> (last accessed June 3, 2020).

		collection matters.	
Washington* Important note: On June 4, 2020, the Washington State Supreme Court voted to sunset the state's Limited License Legal Technician (LLLT) Program. Those technicians currently licensed in good standing may retain their licenses and continue to provide services, and individuals who were currently in progress toward completion of the requirements to become LLLTs will still receive their licenses, provided they complete all requirements by the established deadline; no new LLLTs will be admitted after that date. ²	Limited License Legal Technician	Practice areas are limited to specific areas of family law practice.	https://wsba.org/for-legal-professionals/join-the-legal-profession-in-wa/limited-license-legal-technicians https://www.lawsitesblog.com/2020/06/washington-state-that-pioneered-licensed-legal-technicians-cancels-the-program.html https://www.wsba.org/for-legal-professionals/join-the-legal-profession-in-wa/become-a-legal-technician https://www.courts.wa.gov/court_rules/pdf/APR/GA_APR_28_00_00.pdf

² The June 5, 2020 letter announcing the Washington Supreme Court's vote to sunset the LLLT program, authored by Debra L. Stephens, Chief Justice of the Washington State Supreme Court, is available online at https://wsba.org/docs/default-source/licensing/lllt/lllt-letter-6-9-20.pdf?sfvrsn=ad6b09f1_8. A letter in dissent, authored by Justice Barbara A. Madsen of the Washington Supreme Court, is available online at

Snapshot of Jurisdictions Exploring Licensed Non-Lawyer Practitioner Options

State	Year	Link(s) for more Information
Arizona	2019	https://www.azcourts.gov/Portals/74/LSTF/Report/LSTFReportRecommendationsRED10042019.pdf?ver=2019-10-07-084849-750
California	2015	http://board.calbar.ca.gov/docs/agendaItem/Public/agendaitem1000013042.pdf
	2018	http://www.calbar.ca.gov/About-Us/Who-We-Are/Committees/Task-Force-on-Access-Through-Innovation-of-Legal-Services http://www.calbar.ca.gov/Portals/0/documents/factSheets/ATILS-Fact-Sheet.pdf
Colorado	2016	https://www.coloradosupremecourt.com/Newsletters/Winter2016/Access-to-justice%20subcommittee%20looks%20to%20New%20York.htm
Connecticut	2014	https://www.responsivelaw.org/blog/connecticut-panel-recommends-non-lawyer-practitioners
Delaware	2017	https://courts.delaware.gov/forms/download.aspx?id=98738
Florida	2019	https://lawsites.lexblogplatform.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/509/2020/03/Letter-J.-Stewart-Study-11-6-2019.pdf
Georgia	2013	https://www.gabar.org/committeesprogramssections/executivecommittee/upload/EC_913.pdf
Illinois	2016	https://www.isba.org/sites/default/files/committees/Future%20of%20Legal%20Services%20Report.pdf

https://wsba.org/docs/default-source/licensing/lllt/lllt-sunset-supreme-court-dissent-letter-june-5-2020.pdf?sfvrsn=ba6b09f1_4. Following the Washington State Supreme Court’s vote, the LLLT Board met on June 8, 2020, and determined that it will seek review of the decision. See Washington State Bar Ass’n, *Limited License Legal Technicians*, <https://wsba.org/for-legal-professionals/join-the-legal-profession-in-wa/limited-license-legal-technicians> (last visited June 11, 2020) (“At its meeting on June 8, the LLLT Board determined that it will seek review of this decision. The LLLT Board will be requesting the Court reconsider its decision or at a minimum allow more time for the LLLT candidates to complete the licensing requirements. We will update the website when we have more information.”).

Indiana	2013	https://www.theindianalawyer.com/articles/32749-limited-licensing-programs-gain-traction-in-the-legal-community
Massachusetts	2016	http://www.massa2j.org/a2j/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/First-Annual-Report-of-the-Third-Access-to-Justice-Commission-dated-June-2016.pdf
	2017	http://www.massa2j.org/a2j/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/2017-Annual-Report-of-the-Third-Massachusetts-Access-to-Justice-Commission.pdf
Minnesota	2017	https://www.mnbar.org/docs/default-source/policy/alm-task-force-report-and-recommendations-final.pdf <i>*Note: some computers may require you to paste this link into the browser for it to open.</i>
	2019	http://www.mncourts.gov/About-The-Courts/NewsAndAnnouncements/ItemDetail.aspx?id=1727 http://www.mncourts.gov/mncourtsgov/media/CIOMediaLibrary/News%20and%20Public%20Notices/Orders/ADM19-8002.pdf
	2020	http://www.mncourts.gov/mncourtsgov/media/Implementation-Committee/Report-and-Recommendations-to-Minnesota-Supreme-Court-reduced-size.pdf http://www.mncourts.gov/mncourtsgov/media/CIOMediaLibrary/News%20and%20Public%20Notices/Orders/Administrative-Order-Establishing-Public-Comment-Period-and-Hearing-on-Proposed-Legal-Paraprofessional-Pilot-Project.pdf http://www.mncourts.gov/Implementation-Committee.aspx
Missouri	2016	https://future.mobar.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Future-of-the-Profession-Task-Force-Report-Fall-2016-Full-Report-031417.pdf
Montana	2017	https://www.nala.org/sites/default/files/files/banner/Order_LLLT%20Study%20Group_04-11-2017.pdf

		https://juddocumentservice.mt.gov/getDocByCTrackId?DocId=194530
New Mexico	2019	https://www.nmcourts.gov/uploads/FileLinks/a6efaf23676f4c45a95fdb3d71caea83/News_Release_Working_Group_to_Consider_Licensed_Legal_Technicians.pdf https://www.nmbar.org/NmbarDocs/AboutUs/committees/LLLT/SupremeCourtLLTOrder.pdf https://www.nmbar.org/NmbarDocs/AboutUs/committees/LLLT/OptionsReport.pdf https://www.nmbar.org/NmbarDocs/AboutUs/committees/LLLT/LLTResearchOverview072319.pdf
New York	2013	https://www2.nycbar.org/pdf/report/uploads/20072450-RolesforNonlawyerPractitioners.pdf
North Carolina	2017	https://www.nccourts.gov/assets/documents/publications/nccalj_legal_professionalism_committee_report.pdf?GPC5PBORm.M41jldCYLhhfr70g0Mal6w
Oregon	2017	https://www.osbar.org/_docs/resources/taskforces/futures/FuturesTF_Reports.pdf
	2019	https://www.lawsitesblog.com/2019/10/in-move-to-enhance-access-to-justice-oregon-bar-oks-licensed-paralegals-and-bar-admission-without-law-school.html https://bog.osbar.org/files/2019/09/September-27-2019-BOG-Agenda-.pdf
Texas	2016	https://www.txcourts.gov/media/1436563/complete-cecls-report.pdf
Vermont	2015	https://www.vtbar.org/UserFiles/files/Commission/Commission%20Report%20-%20First%20Year%20Study.pdf
Virginia	2015	https://www.vsb.org/docs/valawyer magazine/v10415-future-law.pdf
	2019	https://www.vsb.org/docs/2019_SCFLP_Report.pdf

Snapshot of Other Non-Lawyer Support/Assistance Options (Not Providing Legal Advice)

State	Program	Link(s) for More Information
Arizona	Certified Legal Document Preparer	https://www.azcourts.gov/cld/Legal-Documents-Preparer-Program https://govt.westlaw.com/azrules/Document/NA3991560304C11DE92988820AFE25925?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=DocumentItem&contextData=(sc.Default&bhcp=1
California	Legal Document Assistant Unlawful Detainer Assistant	http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayexpandedbranch.xhtml?tocCode=BPC&division=3.&title=&part=&chapter=5.5.&article= https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=BPC&division=3.&title=&part=&chapter=5.5.&article=2 . https://calda.org/
Colorado	Self-Help Personnel / Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator (“Sherlock”)	https://www.courts.state.co.us/Courts/Supreme_Court/Directives/13-01.pdf https://www.courts.state.co.us/userfiles/file/Self_Help/Contact%20list%20for%20public(15).pdf
Massachusetts	SAFEPLAN Court-Based Advocate	https://www.mass.gov/service-details/safeplan-program
Nevada	Document Preparer	https://www.nvsos.gov/sos/licensing/document-preparation-services https://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-240A.html
New York	Court Navigator	https://www.nycourts.gov/courts/nyc/housing/rap_prospective.shtml https://www.nycservice.org/opportunities/9186