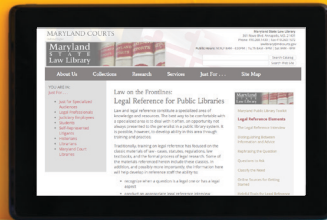


Law on the Frontlines: Legal Reference for Public Libraries

Making Law More Accessible



TRAINING IN LEGAL REFERENCE

Through an institutional partnership, the Thurgood Marshall State Library, the Maryland Access to Justice Commission, and the Conference of Maryland Court Law Library Directors have developed a standardized state-wide curriculum for legal reference. In collaboration with the Maryland State Library since 2017, the curriculum is offered to public library systems to enable and empower public library staff across Maryland to provide quality legal reference in their local communities, ensuring that the law is accessible to every Marylander who needs it.

For each completed training, a Certificate of Completion indicating Contact hours will be provided.

Sessions address:

- The role of public libraries in advancing Access to Justice
- Best Practices for legal reference interviews
- Legal resources in a variety of subjects
- Basics on the structure of law
- Recognizing the difference between information and advice
- Where to refer forward

**ACCESS TO QUALITY
LEGAL INFORMATION =
ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

Only **20%** of Marylanders receive the civil legal aid they need. Public Libraries can play an important role in increasing access to justice by providing their patrons access to quality and trustworthy legal information.

SPRING 2022 WEB EVENTS

All sessions 9:30am – 10:30am

[March 1, 2022 - Basics I: Legal Reference Best Practices](#)

[March 8, 2022 - Basics II: Foundations of Law for Public Library Reference](#)

[March 24, 2022 – Landlord and Tenant](#)

[April 5, 2022 - Family Law](#)

[April 19, 2022 - Consumer Law](#)

[April 26, 2022 - Public Benefits](#)

[May 17, 2022 - Life & Health Planning](#)

Find more information [HERE](#).

We'll be at [MLA/DLA!](#) - topics TBA.

Questions?

Contact Joan.Bellistri@mdcourts.gov

