

Reduced Fee or Free Legal Services for the Preparation of Wills and Powers of Attorney

Cook County

1. AIDS Legal Council of Chicago – 180 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 2110, Chicago, IL 60601 – 312-427-8990
Do prepare wills and powers of attorney for people with HIV and partner of the person with HIV (simple estate)/there are income guidelines
2. Asian Human Services – 4753 N. Broadway, Suite 700, Chicago, IL 60601 – 773-728-2235
Chicago Volunteer Legal Services provides a legal clinic at AHS once per month. Chicago Volunteer Legal Services guidelines apply.
3. Center for Disability and Elder Law – 79 W. Monroe, Suite 919, Chicago, IL 60603 – 312-376-1880
Do prepare wills for persons with disabilities/guidelines apply
4. Chicago Bar Association – 312-554-2000
 - a. Senior Citizens Will Program – Established to assist low-income senior citizens with low-cost simple wills. Eligible candidates must be 60 years of age or over, with limited assets and annual earnings not to exceed \$15,000 for individuals and \$20,000 for couples. Eligible seniors can also obtain forms and information regarding powers of attorney and living wills. Costs range from \$50 to \$125. The Will Program is offered at Chicago and suburban area senior citizen centers. The CBA screens and furnishes participating attorneys. A complete list of all locations with dates and telephone numbers is provided on the CBA web site. See attached list for available dates in 2011 at various locations.
 - b. YLS Wills for Heroes Program – Wills are prepared for firefighters and police officers. The total estate value must not exceed a specified maximum amount.
5. Chicago Legal Clinic, 2938 East 91st Street, Chicago, IL 60617 – 773-731-1762
Do prepare wills and powers of attorney/there is a sliding scale related to income
6. Chicago Volunteer Legal Services – 100 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 900, Chicago, IL – 312-332-1624
Do prepare simple wills and powers of attorney/there are income limits
7. Legal Assistance Foundation of Suburban Cook County – 847-475-3703 – Generally do not provide such services, but a representative said that they might provide such services to seniors

DuPage County

1. DuPage Bar Legal Aid Service – 630-653-6212
Do prepare some wills/service recipient must meet the Prairie State Income and Asset Guidelines or the Modest Means Program guidelines

2. Prairie State Legal Services – 630-690-2130/(1-800-531-7057 is the tel. number for Prairie State telephone counselor attorneys – hours are 9:05 am to 11:45 am and 1:05 pm to 4:00 pm)
Do prepare simple wills and powers of attorney/there are income and asset guidelines which must be met

Will County

1. Will County Legal Assistance Program – 815-727-5123
Do prepare powers of attorney for persons age 60 and over and persons with HIV who are within the asset guidelines

Organizations which Do Not Prepare Wills or Powers of Attorney

1. Cabrini Green Legal Aid Clinic, Centro Romero, Chicago Legal Advocacy for Incarcerated Mothers, Community Economic Development Law Project, Coordinated Advice and Referral Program for Legal Services (CARPLS), James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy, Lawyers Committee for Better Housing, Inc., Legal Aid Bureau of Metropolitan Family Services, Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago, Life Span Center for Legal Services and Advocacy, The Domestic Violence Legal Clinic, The Legal Aid Bureau, and Uptown Peoples Law Center

2. The following law schools do not prepare wills or powers of attorney through their legal aid clinics: Chicago-Kent College of Law, John Marshall Law School, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Northwestern University School of Law, and University of Chicago Law School

Sources for Information

1. The Illinois Attorney General's web site provides two extensive lists of reduced fee and free legal service providers, one list is entitled "Chicago Area Legal Service Providers" and the other list is entitled "University Provided Legal Services in Chicago."

2. The Chicago Bar Association web site provides a list entitled "Free Legal Services in Cook County." One of the resources on this list is a booklet prepared by the Chicago Bar Association YLS entitled "Where to Go for Legal Assistance in or around Chicago." Almost none of the Chicago organizations in this booklet provide free or reduced fee preparation of wills or powers of attorney.

3. Donna Otis provided her list of free and reduced fee legal services for wills and powers of attorney, which included the Chicago Bar Association Senior Will Program, the Center for Disability and Elder Law, and the Chicago Legal Clinic.

4. Telephone calls by Joan Emery to various organizations from November, 2010 to February, 2011.

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Senior Citizens Will Program

• For the Public

- Entertainment/Music
- General Legal Information
- Issues Affecting Women as They Age
- Judicial Election Information
- Lawyer Referral Service
- Legal Programs for the Public
 - *Attorney Fee Dispute Assistance*
 - *Call-A-Lawyer*
 - *In-Court Lawyer Referral Program*
 - *Law at the Library*
 - *Law Week*
 - *Matrimonial Fee Arbitration Project*
 - *Senior Citizens Will Program*
 - *Speakers Bureau*

Established to assist low-income senior citizens with low-cost simple wills, eligible candidates must be 60 years or older with limited assets and annual earnings not exceeding \$15,000 for singles and \$20,000 for couples. In addition to low-cost wills, seniors can obtain forms and information regarding Durable Powers of Attorney and Living Wills. Depending on the legal service provided, costs range from \$50 to \$125. The Program is offered at Chicago and suburban area senior citizens centers. The Chicago Bar Association screens and furnishes participating attorneys. Please note that all scheduled dates are tentative. Call the center nearest you to confirm a date and make an appointment.

The Senior Will Program - January through December 2011 (tentative schedules):

Central West Center

2102 West Ogden Ave.
Chicago, IL
(312)746-5300
(312)744-0319 TTY for hearing impaired

When a minimum of appointments is confirmed, the program is usually held the last Wednesday of the month.

January 26
February 23
March 30
April 27
May 25
June 29
July 27
August 31
September 28
October 26
November 30
December 28

Northeast Center (Levy)

2019 West Lawrence Ave.
Chicago, IL
(312)744-0784
(312)744-0320 TTY for hearing impaired

When a minimum of appointments is confirmed, the program is usually held the last Wednesday of the month.

January 26
February 23
March 30
April 27
May 25
June 29
July 27
August 31
September 28
October 26
November 30
December 28

Northwest Center (Copernicus)

3169 North Milwaukee Ave.
Chicago, IL
(312)744-6681
(312)744-0321 TTY for hearing impaired

When a minimum of appointments is confirmed, the program is usually held the last Wednesday of the month.

January 26
February 23
March 30
April 27
May 25
June 29
July 27
August 31
September 28

October 26
 November 30
 December 28

Southeast Center (Atlas)
 1767 East 79th Street
 Chicago, IL
 (312)747-0189
 (312)744-0322 TTY for hearing impaired

When a minimum of appointments is confirmed, the program is usually held the last Friday of the month.

January 28
 February 25
 March 25
 April 29
 May 27
 June 24
 July 29
 August 26
 September 30
 October 28
 November 18 (Date changed due to Holiday)
 December 16 (Date changed due to Holiday)

Southwest Center
 6117 South Kedzie Ave.
 Chicago, IL
 (312)747-0440
 (312)744-0323 TTY for hearing impaired

Contact this site to get your name on the list for the next available date. Tentative dates are as follows

January 7
 March 4
 April 8
 May 6
 June 3
 July 8
 August 12
 September 18
 October 21
 December 2

Skokie Office of Human Services
 Smith Activities Center
 5120 Galitz
 Skokie, IL
 (847)933-8208
 (847)933-8455 TTY for hearing impaired

Contact this site to get your name on the list for the next available date.

Arlington Heights Senior Center
 1801 West Central Rd.
 Arlington Heights, IL
 (847)253-5532
 (847)797-5310 TTY for hearing impaired

When a minimum of appointments is confirmed, the program is usually held the first Wednesday of the month.

January 5
 February 2
 March 2
 April 6
 May 4
 June 1
 July 6
 August 3
 September 7
 October 5
 November 2
 December 7

Schaumburg Township Hall
 One Illinois Blvd.
 Hoffman Estates, IL
 (847)884-0030
 (847)884-1550 TTY for hearing impaired

When a minimum of appointments is confirmed, the program is usually held the second Tuesday of the month.

January 11
February 8
March 8
April 12
May 10
June 14
July 12
August 9
September 13
October 11
November 8
December 13

Niles Senior Center
999 Civic Center Drive
Niles, IL
(847)588-8420
(847)588-8487 TTY for the hearing impaired

Contact this site to get your name on the list for the next available date.

PLOWS Council on Aging
7808 College Dr
Palos Heights, IL
(708)361-0219

Contact this site to get your name on the list for the next available date.

Senior Assistance Center
7774 West Irving Park Rd.
Norridge, IL
(708)456-7979

Contact this site to get your name on the list for the next available date.

Hanover Park
Hanover Township Senior Services
240 South Route 59
Bartlett, IL 60103
(830) 483-5666

Contact this site to get your name on the list for the next available date.

Franklin Park
The Park District of Franklin Park
Community Center
9560 Franklin Avenue
Franklin Park, IL 60131
(847) 455-2852

Contact this site to get your name on the list for the next available date.

The Chicago Bar Association
321 S. Plymouth Ct
Chicago, IL 60604
312-554-2000

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