



Benefits of LLLTs in Family Law

How it can help you!



71% of low and moderate income households

experienced at least one civil legal problem within the year and received little or no legal aid in handling 86% of those problems. This rises to 80-90% in family law with at least one party without assistance.

Legal Servs. Corp., The Justice Gap: Measuring the Unmet Civil Legal Needs of Low-Income Americans 9 (2017).

Washington APR 28

Excerpt

The Civil Legal Needs Study (2003), commissioned by this Court, established the current legal provider market was not able to meet the needs for legal services. The court established the limited legal technician license to assure the public that legal services are rendered by qualified, licensed practitioners. APR 28 shall describe the conditions and limitations of this limited license. These regulated circumstances provide ways that expand the affordability of legal assistance which is in the public interest.



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Low-income Americans do not get any or enough legal help
for 92% of their substantial civil legal problems.

Legal Services Corporation

Our Statistics

627,973

Population of Counties of Spokane, Stevens, Adams
and Pend Orielle Counties

189

Attorneys registered with bar association for family
law

12

Limited License Legal Technicians in all of Eastern
Washington



Limited License Legal Technician: What They Do and How They Help Attorneys

Limited License Legal Technician (LLLT) is a licensed legal professional:

- * Paralegal Degree

- * Supplemental Family Law Curriculum

- * 1,500-3,000 paralegal hours supervised and certified by attorney

- * Four part WSBA bar exam exclusively on family law and ethics



Rules of Professional Conduct

Rules of Professional Conduct ensures that an LLLT behave ethically and with integrity.



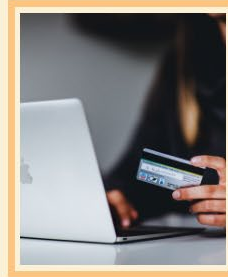
Written Fee Agreement

Must have before performing any services for a fee



Malpractice Insurance

Required to purchase liability insurance policy



IOLTA Account

Required to maintain a IOLTA account if not flat fees.



Affirmative Duty Re: Scope

Advise client in writing of legal issues outside scope

A photograph of two women sitting at a table, facing each other and smiling. They are in a room with large windows overlooking a city skyline. The image is dimmed to serve as a background for the text.

How can LLLT help with the justice gap in Eastern Washington

Get a Closer Look

at the Role of a Limited License
Legal Technician LLLT



Access Point

Lower fees and lower entry point allow for increased access to justice



Paperwork Assistance

Ensure paperwork completion is according to rules and laws.



Questions Resolved

Resolve routine questions cost effectively without wasting court time.



Self Represented Parties

Self representation might be frustrating for everyone involved, but it doesn't have to be that way.



Court Time

Self Represented Persons can be confused and take longer at court.



Emotional Negotiation

Self represented parties can emotionally negotiate and be ill advised as to the big picture.



Misinformed proceedings

Self represented persons often make rookie mistakes that require extensive legal intervention.



Justice Debra Stephens

The program was an innovative attempt to increase access to legal services. However, after careful consideration of the overall costs of sustaining the program and the small number of interested individuals, a majority of the court determined that the LLLT program is not an effective way to meet these needs and voted to sunset the program.



The State after Sunset

What now?



Licensed LLLTs

Current LLLTs retain ability to be licensed as long as meet WSBA requirements.



Future LLLTs

Last bar exam scheduled for July 2022. The number of licensed technicians increased since sunset.



Alternative for Pro Bono or Low Bono Clients

There is no viable and affordable alternative for low or moderate income clients.

What if I told you

Collaborating with a Legal Technician can help increase revenue



Benefits to Law Firm

Less Business Leaving the Firm -
Examine These Factors



Cost

Is the labor cost incurred justifiable for routine or standard cases?



Time

Are these cases the best and highest quality use of attorney time?



Interest and Complexity

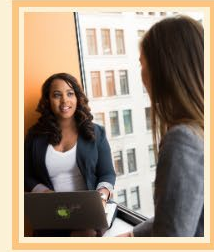
Do attorneys become more engaged when working on complex matters?

You may be surprised
at just how different a Limited
License Legal Technician is from a
highly trained paralegal.



Independent Legal Advice

Paralegals cannot give independent legal advice.



Attorney Review

An Attorney must review all paralegal work.



LLLT Fees Recoverable

LLLT fees are autonomously recoverable in court.



Increased Volunteerism

Increase firm's reputation by increasing pro bono hours

Are you missing out?

A situation where everyone benefits.

For those cases within LLLT scope, the paperwork can be done by an LLLT without supervision, and the clients' advice is then handled—again without involving any lawyers. If a LLLT works within a firm, then when they hit the top of their license, a firm attorney steps in to provide uninterrupted client service. It's a win-win for clients and LLLTs.



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Expansion of the legal marketplace to include more accessibility for low and middle income people benefits producers and consumers by increasing court efficiency, increasing attorney job satisfaction and increasing a firm's overall bottom line.

Lesli Ashley