

Service:

Legal Aid NSW

Date:

Information below is current as of September 2024.

Current Service Update:

Legal Aid provides legal advice clinics and services at our office and regionally throughout the Central Tablelands and Central West.

Crime

Legal Aid Criminal lawyers provide duty and case services, attending the regional Courts. We encourage any person charged with a criminal offence to phone Orange Legal Aid office as soon as possible rather than wait to seek assistance at Court on the day.

Family

Legal Aid NSW's Family Law solicitor can assist with a range of issues like:

- Questions about family breakdown
- Property settlements
- Child access and custody issues

Civil

Legal Aid NSW's Civil Law solicitors can assist with a range of issues like:

- Financial hardship - credit card or other debts, fines
- Consumer or contract issues – unfair contracts, insurance
- Centrelink – pensions, debts, fraud prosecutions
- Housing – evictions, tenancy, mortgage difficulties
- Discrimination or harassment – in employment, education, housing
- Complaints about government authorities - such as police, schools, government departments

Our focus is to seek to resolve issues as early as possible, trying to help clients avoid the need for litigation. Court representation is available in limited range of matters.

Work Development Order program: WDO's are a voluntary option for vulnerable people to clear their fines debt through volunteer work, mental health/drug & alcohol treatment, counselling, educational courses or programs. Any organisations interested in signing up to be a WDO sponsor can contact Orange Legal Aid office.

Law Access

The best way to find out if we can provide you with free legal advice or book an appointment is to speak to our team at LawAccess NSW. Anyone with a legal problem in NSW can obtain legal information and referrals by calling 1300 888 529 or through our chat on our website: [Legal advice \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/legal-advice).

The **Disaster Response Legal Service** (DRLS) is a specialist team within Legal Aid NSW that provides free legal help for disaster affected individuals in NSW with legal issues including:

- Insurance claims and disputes

- Eligibility for the Resilient Homes Program
- Eligibility for disaster grants
- Tenancy issues around rent, repairs, and eviction
- Credit, debt, fines and financial hardship
- Employment entitlements and unfair dismissals
- Domestic and family violence
- Other legal problems related to disasters

Our specialist disaster solicitors are on the ground actively providing services in the region. We regularly attend outreach in Eugowra. We are attending other locations in conjunction with community events and in collaboration with other services, such as the financial counsellors from Catholic Care. For details on upcoming outreach locations and dates near you, follow the Legal Aid NSW [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) page.

Anyone affected by a disaster can get free help by contacting the Disaster Response Legal Service NSW helpline on 1800 801 529 (9am to 5pm weekdays). Further information is available on the [Disaster Response Legal Service NSW Website](#).

Key Legal Aid Contacts:

Orange Legal Aid office
Suite 4, 95 Byng Street, Orange
Phone: 6362 8022
Email OrangeOffice@legalaid.nsw.gov.au

Law Access 1300 888 529

Disaster Response Legal Service: 1800 801 529