



QLaw Foundation of Washington

What to Know About Referrals and Advocacy

This resource is for community organizations and service providers wanting to refer community members to QLaw Foundation of Washington services, or wanting to collaborate with QLaw Foundation about systemic advocacy needs.

What QLaw Foundation CAN do for community members:

- Provide a free consultation with a volunteer attorney through the LGBTQ+ Legal Clinic (currently first and third Thursday evenings)
 - Provided in either English or Spanish
 - Determine whether a client has a legal problem
 - Suggest possible options
 - Provide appropriate referrals for the situation

What QLaw Foundation CAN'T do for community members:

- Provide direct court representation
- Give legal advice over the phone or by e-mail - these channels are not monitored by attorneys and are not a source of on-call legal advice
- Give advice on criminal legal issues

Situation	What to Do
Client is needing general legal support	Direct them to schedule an appointment online with the LGBTQ+ legal clinic here

	Email clinic@qlawfoundation.org if a phone consultation is not a good option or other accommodations are needed
Client has more pressing legal needs/needs a quicker response	Contact the Intake Line : 206-235-7235 or email clinic@qlawfoundation.org
Client has received previous aid and/or may need intensive, specialized support	Email Denise : denise@qlawfoundation.org

Expectations:

What Happens When You Call the LGBTQ+ Legal Clinic Intake Line

During Business Hours

- A volunteer will ask for basic information about your legal issue
- The volunteer will help you schedule an appointment for the next available LGBTQ+ legal clinic appointment if you would like to speak to an attorney
- Note that folks running the intake line **are not** attorneys, meaning that they cannot give legal advice, nor should there be an expectation to get on-the-spot legal assistance by calling the intake line.

After Business Hours

- Please leave a message including call-back information, if possible
- QLaw will follow up in 2-3 business days

What Happens When You Email the Clinic

- QLaw will follow up to a client request in 2-3 business days.

What Happens After Making Appointment Online

- A confirmation email will be sent to the email address the client provides with more details about the appointment (currently phone-only unless other accommodations are arranged)

What Happens at an Appointment with the LGBTQ+ Legal Clinic

- A volunteer attorney will speak with the client about their legal issue
- The attorney will suggest possible options or next steps and provide appropriate referrals
- A client can make more than one appointment if they wish

Getting Help with Systemic Advocacy Needs

QLaw Foundation works collaboratively with many organizations centered in our communities to address ongoing or systemic injustices. We do not limit our advocacy to LGBTQ+ needs, as many systemic injustices impact multiple marginalized communities, or rely on solidarity from many different communities.

Our advocacy can include:

- Advocacy to the state legislature, state and local government, and/or courts
- Presentations for staff or communities about particular legal issues
- Letters of support, legal guidance, or amicus briefs (filed with courts to support a particular legal case)
- Internal consulting, organizational reviews, or trainings on LGBTQ+ inclusion practices
- Other support you or your movement may need

If you are interested having QLaw Foundation's support around a particular systemic issue or injustice, or working with QLaw Foundation for consulting or training, **please contact Executive Director Denise Diskin at denise@qlawfoundation.org.**