



Colorado Judicial Branch Brian D. Boatright, Chief Justice Steven Vasconcellos, State Court Administrator

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Colorado Judicial Branch opens application process for Eviction Legal Defense Fund grants \$1.55 million in grants available in Fiscal Year 2022

DENVER – The Colorado Judicial Branch announced today it has opened the application process for Fiscal Year 2022 grants from the Eviction Legal Defense Fund, which funds programs that provide civil legal assistance to help indigent persons who are experiencing an eviction or are at immediate risk of an eviction. The application form is now available <u>here</u>. Applications must be received by the State Court Administrator's Office by 5 p.m. Thursday, July 15, 2021, to be considered for a grant.

The program was established by the General Assembly in 2019 to help indigent persons experiencing an eviction or at risk of an eviction obtain legal services at no cost to them. To be eligible, organizations must be non-profit and currently serving the legal needs of indigent persons at risk for or experiencing an eviction. Successful organizations must be prepared to provide full legal services, including but not limited to providing legal representation to indigent tenants in any forcible entry and detainer proceeding or action for monetary damages or other lease violation, legal assistance prior to the filing of an eviction, or any other judicial actions in which legal representation is necessary to protect the interests of an indigent tenant. Additional

information regarding the fund and qualifications for organizations receiving grants may be found in section 13-40-127 of the Colorado Revised Statutes.

Grants will be awarded based on a formula which considers factors including number of clients served in the past year and the location of service. For Fiscal Year 2022, \$1.55 million is available for grants used for the purposes discussed above, subject to revision if additional funding becomes available.

Applications must be submitted via email by the **5 p.m. Thursday**, **July 15, 2021** deadline. Applications and questions must be directed to

EvictionLegalDefenseFund@judicial.state.co.us.