

Remember, although each participating attorney has agreed to provide two, free 30-minute consultation sessions, you should discuss with the attorney the fees you will be charged before any consultation session begins.\* That will help you avoid any misunderstandings.

For further information about the NEA *Attorney Referral Program*, contact your state Association legal services program office or your local UniServ office.

\*The *free* consultation benefit allows you to discuss your problem with an attorney to determine whether you need additional legal services. Do not expect the attorney to draft or review documents during a consultation. If you ask the attorney to provide additional services, such as preparing a will, you will be billed at discounted Program rates.



*Great Public Schools for Every Child*  
Collective Bargaining and Member Advocacy  
Legal Services Programs  
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# NEA Attorney Referral Program

A BENEFIT FOR NEA MEMBERS



*Great Public Schools for Every Child*

# NEA ATTORNEY REFERRAL PROGRAM

For over 150 years, NEA members have come to rely on their Association for support and service in a wide variety of areas. *That commitment to service continues today.*

The NEA *Attorney Referral Program* provides members with legal advice on personal matters. Each eligible member is entitled to two 30-minute consultation sessions *free* during each membership year. And if you need additional legal help, the NEA Attorney Referral program lets you get that help at rates below participating attorneys' usual fees.

## Clear Evidence— NEA Delivers for Members

NEA has for many years provided members full legal protection in employment-related matters. But in today's complex world, simply having legal help for employment-related matters isn't enough. At one time or another, each of us needs legal counsel on personal matters that are important to us and our families.

That's why NEA created the NEA *Attorney Referral Program*. This unique program is designed to make sure that every NEA member in participating states has access to affordable legal advice.

## Who Can Participate

All Unified Members and their spouses and dependent children are eligible for the NEA *Attorney Referral Program*.

## What the Program Provides

Your national and state Associations have identified attorneys throughout the state who have agreed to handle certain personal legal matters at a substantially reduced rate.

During any membership year [from September 1 to August 31], eligible members are entitled to two, *free* 30-minute consultation sessions with any of these Association-approved attorneys. During the two *free* sessions, you may discuss any legal matter except income tax preparation.

In addition to *free* consultations, members may have specific legal work performed in five "core" areas at a 30-percent reduction of participating attorneys' normal fees.

NEA is committed to making sure that qualified and competent attorneys participate in the NEA *Attorney Referral Program*. Before any attorneys can become a part of the program, they must be approved by both the NEA and your state Association. Also, they must agree to provide service to members at times that are convenient to members—times outside the normal working day.

Participating attorneys must agree to discuss fees before they render services. They must be willing to accept payment of their fees by installment payment plan or by credit card.

## The 'Core' Areas

NEA has identified five "core" areas of personal legal service for coverage under the NEA *Attorney Referral Program*:



### WILLS AND ESTATES

At a 30-percent discount rate, you can have a participating attorney prepare your will, assist with estate planning, provide legal assistance if you are named the executor or administrator of an estate, or offer legal counsel in guardianship proceedings.



### REAL ESTATE

Participating attorneys will provide discounted assistance with the purchase or sale of residential property, disputes with landlords, property line controversies, and problems with zoning laws or land use regulations.



### DOMESTIC RELATIONS

Need representation in proceedings for annulment, divorce, separation, alimony, custody, child support, guardianship, adoption, paternity, or name change? All are covered under the Program discount.

### CONSUMER PROTECTION

Participating attorneys will provide assistance at the discounted fee for disputes with creditors or finance agencies and proceedings with retailers concerning defective merchandise.



### TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS

You can receive legal representation at a 30-percent discount, to handle charges of operating under the influence, reckless driving, or other offenses involving the potential loss of license, a jail sentence, or financial liability in excess of \$50.



Remember, if you are an eligible NEA member, your spouse and dependent children may also receive, upon your request, the NEA *Attorney Referral Program* discount rates from participating attorney.

## What Isn't Covered

While NEA and your state Association provide additional programs to help with job-related legal problems, the NEA *Attorney Referral Program* covers

almost every type of *personal* legal problem you might face. There are, however, a few areas where participating attorneys are not required to give members the 30-percent discount.

Problems such as business dealings, bankruptcies, and preparation of a defense in Internal Revenue Service income tax matters are not covered under the 30-percent discount.

The 30-percent discount also does not apply to the defense of criminal violations, other than the traffic violations covered by the Program.

Participating attorneys are not permitted to represent a member in any matter in which the adverse party is the NEA, an NEA affiliate, or another NEA member—except in separation or divorce proceedings.

Of course, court costs, filing and service fees, and attorney out-of-pocket expenses are not ordinarily discounted.

It's also important to note that if you obtain your own attorney, you won't receive the discount rate, even if that attorney later becomes a participant in the NEA *Attorney Referral Program*.

## How You Can Take Advantage of this Valuable Benefit for NEA Members

Typically, as a member, you would receive state-specific information similar to what is in this brochure, for example, in a membership packet. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the NEA approved law firms participating in the program in your state would be listed at the end of a state-specific brochure. You would then be free to contact a participating attorney directly—identifying yourself as an NEA member who is taking advantage of the NEA *Attorney Referral Program*.