

LEGAL AID IN NATIONAL LAWS: Czech Republic

Czech Republic

<p>Is legal aid available? Who is eligible for it?</p>	<p>Under the Charter of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms of the Czech Republic, everyone is entitled to receive legal aid in court and other official proceedings. A claimant may ask for a representative to be appointed by a court (such a representative can be appointed only for the relevant court proceedings) or an attorney appointed by the Czech Bar Association (in cases where conditions for appointing a representative by court are not met).</p>
<p>What is the criteria to be eligible for legal aid?</p>	<p>Court: A claimant must sufficiently prove that they do not have enough funds to obtain legal aid through their own income and that the appointment of the representative is necessary for protection of the claimant's rights.</p> <p>Czech Bar Association:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A claimant has not meet conditions for a representative appointed by court and an attorney is required for the matter being addressed (if relevant, a decision from the court dismissing an application for a representative must be attached to the application). • At least two attorneys refused to provide legal aid (statements of such attorneys must be attached to the application). • The claimant must fill in a binding form for an application. • In cases where an applicant claims for free (or partly covered) legal aid, they must fill in a binding form on their financial standing.
<p>Where can you file the application for legal aid?</p>	<p>Court: The application can be submitted to the relevant court during court proceedings.</p> <p>Czech Bar Association: An application with all necessary attachments can be sent to the Czech Bar Association.</p>
<p>What expenses are covered?</p>	<p>Court: All or part of the expenses are covered (depending on the financial standing of the claimant).</p> <p>Czech Bar Association: All or part of the expenses are covered if it is justified by the financial standing of the claimant.</p>
<p>Is there freedom to choose a lawyer?</p>	<p>Generally, yes, but when a person asks the Court for appointment of a representative, the representative will be chosen from a list of representatives maintained by the Court.</p>
<p>Further information</p>	<p>https://portal.gov.cz/portal/obcan/situace/152/167/18385.html Czech Bar Association http://www.cak.cz/scripts/detail.php?id=1680</p>