

Pro Bono Grant Criteria

1. The program's first priority should be to provide direct pro bono attorney representation for the most serious legal problems (those involving a threatened or actual loss of food, shelter, income, health care, or personal safety).
 - a. The program may include secondary services (pro se clinics, other educational efforts, advice by paralegals) which help to provide a cost-effective mix of services.
 - b. The program must have written priorities for selection of cases.
 - c. The program should be using appropriate technology to maximize the use of resources, both volunteer and financial.
2. The program must have an effective relationship with the legal services office serving its area, the local bar association, the local Access to Justice Committee, and the Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator(s) in the relevant judicial district(s).
 - a. Minimal duplication of services.
 - b. Minimal "bouncing" of clients between programs.
 - c. Integrated intake or appropriate coordination with the legal services office serving its area.
3. The program may not base acceptance of clients on whether they can pay a fee.
4. There must be strong, private bar support for the program evidenced by sufficient volunteers and financial and/or in-kind support
5. COLTAF will consider whether, and to what extent, the program has the potential to be sustained without COLTAF support.
6. The program must have sound governance, fiscal health and practices, and program delivery services.