

Separation agreement certificates

Do you need legal help?

To qualify for legal aid services, you must be financially eligible, and your legal matter must be one that LAO covers.

For more information, visit legalaid.on.ca/eligibility

Contact us

Toll-free: **1-800-668-8258**

TTY service for the hearing impaired: **1-866-641-8867**

Service is available Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Legal Aid Ontario (LAO) covers the cost of up to 10 hours with a family lawyer to help negotiate and prepare a separation agreement for financially eligible clients. The spouse of a financially eligible client may also be eligible if the spouse earns up to a maximum of \$50,000.

What is a separation agreement?

A separation agreement is a legally binding document that can be used by families to make custody, access and child support arrangements for their children, and to settle spousal support and property division and equalization.

It protects both parties, because it clearly specifies each of their obligations. Plus, a lawyer represents each party while drafting this agreement, so families can stay fully informed of the potential legal consequences of their decisions or actions.

Services

The services that a lawyer can provide to help you and your former partner negotiate and agree upon a separation agreement include:

- obtaining and reviewing disclosure
- preparing a sworn financial statement, where support or property are at issue
- discussing negotiation and/or settlement with the opposing party
- participating in mediation or an LAO settlement conference (if appropriate)
- preparing and reviewing a separation agreement
- finalizing a separation agreement
- converting a separation agreement into a court order (if appropriate)
- filing a separation agreement with the court (if appropriate)

