

AALL LISP PUBLIC LIBRARIES TOOLKIT STATE INFORMATION - MICHIGAN

1. Finding a law library

The Library of Michigan maintains an [on-line Directory of Michigan Law Libraries](#). The directory indicates which libraries have on-line catalogs and which are open to the public. This list is the best source for a Michigan-based researcher looking for Michigan legal materials in print.

2. Help with legal research

Some libraries offer guides on how to do legal research using Michigan sources, including:

- [How to Read Legal Citations](#) (Davenport University)
- [Sources of Michigan Legislative History](#) (University of Michigan)
- [Locating the Law](#) (Oakland County Law Library)

The American Association of Law Libraries also offers a general guide to legal research: [How to Research a Legal Problem: A Guide for Non-Lawyers](#) .

In addition, the Michigan courts and the State Bar of Michigan each sponsor an on-line legal help center with helpful information and links relating to various legal topics:

- Michigan Courts Self-Help Center: <http://courts.mi.gov/self-help/center/Pages/default.aspx>
- State Bar of Michigan Online Legal Help Center: <https://lrs.michbar.org/>
- The Michigan State Bar Foundation and the Legal Services Corporation also sponsor a Michigan Legal Help web site: <http://michiganlegalhelp.org/>

3. Links to specific Michigan legal resources:

Michigan Constitution: <http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?mcl-Constitution>

Executive Branch

- List of state agency websites: https://www.michigan.gov/som/0,4669,7-192-29701_29702_30045---,00.html
- Michigan Administrative Code and Michigan Register: https://www.michigan.gov/opt/0,5880,7-338-35738_5698---,00.html
- Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Administrative Rules, Decisions & Digests – https://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-89334_10576_77525---,00.html
- Attorney General opinions: <http://www.michigan.gov/ag/0,1607,7-164-20988---,00.html>
- Tax forms: <http://www.michigan.gov/taxes>

Legislative Branch

- Statutes: <http://www.legislature.mi.gov>
- Bills and pending legislation: <http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

Judicial Branch

- Case law (opinions of the Michigan Supreme Court and Michigan Court of Appeals): http://courts.mi.gov/opinions_orders/Pages/default.aspx
- Current Court Rules:
<http://courts.mi.gov/Courts/MichiganSupremeCourt/rules/Pages/current-court-rules.aspx>
- Proposed and Newly-Amended Court Rules:
<http://courts.mi.gov/courts/michigansupremecourt/rules/court-rules-admin-matters/pages/default.aspx>
- Model Civil Jury Instructions:
<http://courts.mi.gov/courts/michigansupremecourt/mcji/pages/home.aspx>
- Court Forms (State Court Administrative Office Approved):
<http://courts.mi.gov/Administration/SCAO/Forms/Pages/default.aspx>

Local laws

- Michigan local government websites: <http://www.statelocalgov.net/local-mi.cfm>
- Michigan local ordinances:
<https://www.law.msu.edu/library/substantive/local.html>

4. Michigan Law Pages on Legal Directories and Law School web sites

Another way to get started with legal research is to consult a legal directory which provides links to many Michigan law resources in one place, such as:

Findlaw.com: <https://statelaws.findlaw.com/michigan-law.html>

American Law Sources On-Line: <http://www.lawsources.com/also/usa.cgi?mi>

State Bar of Michigan: <https://lrs.michbar.org/>

Michigan law school libraries also provide guides to Michigan legal resources on their web sites. See:

[Michigan State College of Law Library](#) (Michigan Legal Resources)

[Thomas M. Cooley Law School Library](#) (Michigan Major Legal Web Resources)

[University of Michigan Law School Library](#) (Michigan Legal Research)

[Wayne State University Arthur Neef Law Library](#) (Law: Michigan Legal Resources)

5. Legal databases

Check to see whether your local library or a public university library near you has a subscription to one of the specialized legal research databases such as Westlaw, Lexis-Nexis Academic Universe, or Fastcase. These services provide on-line access to Michigan cases, statutes, court rules, and other legal resources.