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 legal databases and which are open to the public. Legal databases may only be available to users who are physically present in a library.

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)
• Legal Research Guides (Oakland County Law Library)


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:
• Self-Represented Litigants (michigan.gov)
• State Bar of Michigan Legal Resource and Referral Center: https://lrs.michbar.org/
• The Michigan State Bar Foundation and the Legal Services Corporation also sponsor a Michigan Legal Help web site: https://michiganlegalhelp.org/

3. Links to specific Michigan legal resources:


Executive Branch
• List of state agency websites: https://www.michigan.gov/som/0,4669,7-19229701_29702_30045---,00.html
• Michigan Administrative Code and pending rule activity: LARA - Administrative Rules (michigan.gov)
• Attorney General opinions: http://www.michigan.gov/ag/0,1607,7-164-20988--,00.html
• Michigan Tax forms and information: 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):  https://www.courts.michigan.gov/case-search/
• Current Court Rules:  http://courts.mi.gov/Courts/MichiganSupremeCourt/rules/Pages/current-courtrules.aspx
• Proposed and Newly-Amended Court Rules
• 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 websites

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.lawsource.com/also/usa.cgi?mi

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, LexisNexis, or Fastcase. These services provide on-line access to Michigan cases, statutes, court rules, and other legal resources.