

## 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)

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:

- Self-Represented Litigants ([michigan.gov](http://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:

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

#### **Executive Branch**

- List of state agency websites: [https://www.michigan.gov/som/0,4669,7-19229701\\_29702\\_30045---,00.html](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](http://michigan.gov))
- Attorney General opinions: [http://www.michigan.gov/ag/0,1607,7-164-20988--\\_00.html](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 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>

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.