

## AN OVERVIEW OF PRO BONO STUDENTS CANADA'S FAMILY JUSTICE CENTRE

### INTRODUCTION

Pro Bono Students Canada (PBSC), Epstein Cole LLP, and Legal Aid Ontario (LAO) have partnered to launch the Family Justice Centre (FJC). At the FJC, we aim to address the longstanding gaps in our family justice system by hosting virtual legal clinics for Ontarians dealing with family law issues who are unable to afford a lawyer, but do not necessarily meet the threshold to qualify for legal aid services. At the virtual clinics, private bar family law lawyers will supervise law students in the delivery of unbundled legal services to self-represented litigants in Ontario. The FJC will also create public legal education resources to support self-represented litigants in navigating the family law process.

### SCOPE OF SERVICES

At the virtual legal clinics, clients can receive assistance with a wide array of legal issues and court forms.

#### The FJC can assist with:

LEGAL ISSUES	COURT FORMS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parenting</li> <li>• Child Support</li> <li>• Spousal Support</li> <li>• Service Issues</li> <li>• Restraining Orders<sup>[1]</sup></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pleadings               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Application</li> <li>○ Answer</li> <li>○ Reply</li> <li>○ Motion to Change</li> <li>○ Response to Motion to Change</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Conference Briefs               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Case Conference Brief</li> <li>○ Settlement Conference Brief</li> <li>○ Trial Management Conference Brief</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Motion Materials               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 14B Motion Form</li> <li>○ 14 Motion Form</li> <li>○ 14A Affidavit</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

#### The FJC will not assist with:

- Urgent matters
- Child protection matters
- Divorce<sup>[2]</sup>
- FRO Refraining Motions
- Property division

<sup>1</sup> The FJC will be able to assist with restraining orders only in limited circumstances.

<sup>2</sup> The FJC can assist with corollary relief (i.e. parenting, child support, etc.) for a married person. The FJC can assist in preparing a 14B Motion requesting substituted service in relation to an Application for Divorce.

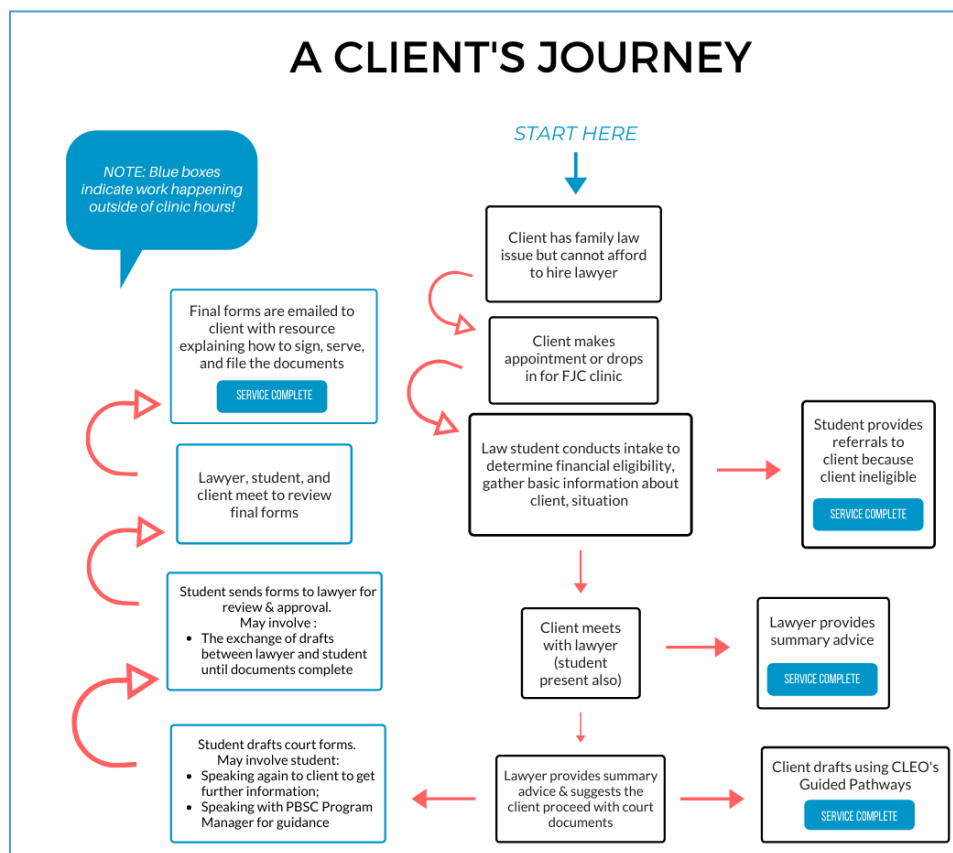
## FINANCIAL ELIGIBILITY

The FJC's eligibility criteria encompasses a niche clientele group. The FJC will serve clients with household incomes of up to 175% of LAO Duty Counsel Eligibility Thresholds (see chart below). It will also provide services to Ontarians who may not be eligible for LAO services because of the nature of their legal issue or situation (i.e. Motions to Change in situations not involving domestic violence, exhausted LAO certificate, change of solicitor request declined, etc.).

# of People in Household	Annual Household Income (Gross)	Monthly Household Income (Gross)
1	\$39,760	\$3,313
2	\$56,229	\$4,686
3	\$68,886	\$5,741
4	\$79,520	\$6,627
5+	\$88,905	\$7,409

## CLIENT JOURNEY

The chart below sets out a client's journey through the FJC's virtual legal clinic.



Applicants will need to complete an intake in order to be scheduled for a virtual clinic (where they will meet with a lawyer).

[Our website](#) maintains a list of upcoming intake dates and clinic dates as well as our contact information.

*This project has received financial support from:*

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