

Court Fees and Fines and State Appropriations by State*
2009-10 Amounts, Major Changes from 2009 Legislative Sessions Noted
Revised 3/8/10
(**See note below related to court fees and fines)

State	Court Fees and Fines, 2009	State Appropriation, 2009	2009 Legislative Session Changes
AL	None	\$200,000; initiated 2008	
AK	None	\$200,000; initiated 2008	
AZ	None	\$1,000,000 to provide legal services to women with children who are victim of domestic violence.	Domestic violence funding reduced from \$1,253,000 to \$1,000,000. \$53,000 to fund elder law hotline eliminated.
AR	\$342,000 from \$20 "reopening" fee for civil cases, initiated 2005, plus estimated \$500,000 from \$10 circuit court filing fee, initiated 2009.	None	Circuit court filing fee increased by \$10 for legal services. Estimated revenue of \$500,000.
CA	\$6,746,000; initiated 2005	\$11,009,000; initiated in 99-00.	
CO	None	\$750,000 Family Violence Justice Fund for 2008-09; initiated 1999, eliminated 2004, restored 2005, increased 2008.	Legislation passed earmarking a portion of a filing fee increase for dissolution proceedings for the Family Violence Justice Fund. Estimated revenue in FY 2010-11 is \$143,000, but may not increase appropriated amount.
CT	\$7,700,000, initiated 2009	\$1,000,000 in 06-07; initiated 2005	Legislature approved \$7.7 million/year for legal services through increased court fees (filing and other). No final yet on appropriation amount.

DE	None	\$150,800 from Grant-in-Aid program for general legal services. \$50,000 elder law appropriation. Contingency appropriation of \$233,700.	Contingency appropriation reduced 15% to \$233,700; DVLS & CLASI Grant-in-Aid funding reduced from \$190,900 to \$150,800.
DC	None	\$2,860,000 from DC City Council, the equivalent of a state legislature, initiated 2006.	Appropriation reduced by 20% to \$2,860,000
FL	As of 2004, local filing fees are no longer used for legal services, but state law requires counties to fund.	\$1,000,000	
GA	For pro bono in 3 counties only; total is \$645,000	\$1,966,400 to provide legal services for victims of domestic violence (no divorces). Initiated in 1998. Also, \$263,000 for senior hotline.	Appropriation for DV reduced by 6% to \$1,966,400
HI	\$204,000; initiated in 1996	None	Appropriation eliminated.
ID	None	None	
IL	DuPage County only, for family and children's issues, \$275,000, initiated in 1995	\$1,750,000 to fund legal information centers, regional legal services hotlines, dispute resolution centers, self-help assistance desks, and civil legal services providers, initiated 2000.	Appropriation reduced by 50% to \$1,750,000.
IN	None	\$1,500,000; initiated in 1997	
IA	None	\$1,759,171; initiated 1996.	Initially cut to \$1,954,634. Governor then imposed 10% across-the-board cut, reducing amount to \$1,759,171.
KS	\$846,000, initiated in 1996	None	

KY	\$3,618,000; initiated in 1994, increased (doubled) in 2003	\$480,000, initiated in 1996, increased in 1998; decreased in 2008.	4% cut in appropriation to \$480,000.
LA	\$457,000; 1997 legislature authorized local jurisdictions to assess fees; implemented in several jurisdictions.	None.	Appropriation eliminated.
ME	\$1,764,000, initiated in 1997, increased in 2005	\$264,000 to Pine Tree Legal Services; \$128,000 to Legal Services for the Elderly	Appropriation for Pine Tree reduced by 13% to \$264,000.
MD	\$7,898,000; initiated in 1998 and increased substantially in 2004	\$500,000 from state abandoned property fund (initiated 1985)	
MA	None; was filing fee surcharge from 1983-94; converted to general appropriation in 1994	\$9,500,000	Appropriation reduced about 14% to \$9,500,000. Ear-marking for individual projects eliminated.
MI	\$7,844,000, initiated in 1993	None	
MN	Dedicated surcharges on civil filing fees and certain real estate filings existed until late 1980s; now are a revenue source for appropriation	\$12,082,560 (including \$877,000 earmarked for family law) for 07 and 08.	\$1 million that had not been part of annualized base + .8% reduction in base funding = \$12,082,560 (loss of \$1,097,440 per year for 2 year biennium).
MS	\$643,000 in 2008FY; initiated in 2006	None	
MO	\$3,200,000 in 2008; initiated 2003; sunset provision extended in 2007 to 12/31/12.	None since FY02-03 (filing fee surcharge initiated).	
MT	\$110,000, to serve domestic violence victims; initiated 1999, increased 2005	None	
NE	\$2,445,000, initiated in 1997; increased in 2002; also, \$360,000, initiated in 2006, from \$1 fee on criminal penalties	None	

NV	\$3,708,000, from several legislatively authorized surcharges implemented in some local jurisdictions.	None	
NH	None	\$1,740,000, initiated in 1997	Increase of \$300,000 for each of the next 2 years; total annual appropriation of \$1,740,000.
NJ	Yes (see State Appropriation)	\$29,585,000 (\$2,500,000 initiated in 1966-67, additional appropriation of \$8,000,000 in 1996 with increase in filing fees, \$1,500,000 added in 2000; \$4,400,000 added in 2004); \$4,000,000 added in regular session in 2008, then \$9,200,000 more in special session.	
NM	\$1,885,000 for 08-09.	\$2,068,000, initiated 2007	State appropriation reduced by 23% to \$2,068,000 for FY2010.
NY	Yes, \$2,000,000 from Legal Services Assistance Fund with funding from a portion of each criminal history search fee; created in 2003.	\$6,687,396 for general legal services + \$1,218,000 for services for domestic violence.	New appropriation of approximately \$2,700,000.
NC	\$3,199,000 for general legal services; converted from appropriation in 2001; \$1,454,000 for domestic violence added in 2004.	\$825,000; initiated 2006	Appropriation cut 25%, to \$825,000.
ND	Approximately \$191,000; initiated in 1989; increased in 1997	None	
OH	\$16,168,000 in FY08; initiated in 1985, increased 2005.	None	

OK	None	\$1,083,306 for family law cases, initiated in 1996; most recent increase in 2006	Appropriation cut 7% to \$1,083,306.
OR	\$5,240,100; initiated in 1977, legislature approved increase in 2003 that phased in over 3 years.	\$500,000 (\$1,000,000 for the biennium)	Legislature approved new appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the biennium. Legislation passed to use abandoned property in lawyers trust accounts for legal services.
PA	\$9,709,000 in FY08-09, initiated in 2002, + \$2,800,000 for next 2 years	\$3,064,000, initiated in FY74-75, several increases	Temporary increase (sunsets in 25 months) in filing fees to offset IOLTA losses; will total \$2,800,000. Appropriation reduced by less than 1%
RI	\$306,000; initiated in 1996	\$135,000 for FY09	New filing fee surcharges (\$10 family court, \$5 district & small claims courts) to generate approximately \$180,000.
SC	\$1,770,000; initiated in 1997	None	
SD	\$100,000 estimated; initiated 2009	None	New \$50 filing fee on requests for modification of final orders in domestic cases. Estimate of revenue \$100,000.
TN	\$1,877,900 from 2 sources - filing fee surcharge (initiated in 1995), parking/speeding ticket surcharge (initiated in 1999) and \$1,566,000 from tax on bail bonds (initiated 2001)	None	.
TX	\$9,770,000; initiated in 1997, added to in 2009	\$2,500,000 per year, since 2002, from the Crime Victims Compensation Fund to provide civil legal services to crime victims. \$1,500,000, started in 05-06, in general revenue funds. \$10,000,000 temporary (for 2 years) to replace lost IOLTA funds.	For the biennium, \$20,000,000 in new one time appropriation, \$4,800,000 additional from filing fee increase and \$1,900,000 from civil fines paid to Attorney General. Total new funds for each year of biennium, to replace IOLTA funds lost because of interest rate drop = \$13,350,000.

UT	None	\$195,000, initiated 2003, increased 2007, to provide assistance in family law and domestic violence cases.	Appropriation reduced by 2.5% to \$195,000.
VT	None	Approximately \$735,000	
VA	\$7,800,000; initiated in 1992; increased in 2002 and 2003, then big increase in 2008	\$2,000,000; initiated in late 70's, increased periodically, most recently in 2007.	
WA	Yes (see State Appropriation)	\$11,600,000; initiated in 1992 with passage of non-dedicated filing fee. Most recent increase in 2007.	
WV	\$314,000 to serve domestic violence victims; from civil filing fees and jury fees; initiated 2003	\$400,000 to serve domestic violence victims; increased 2008	Appropriation and fees increased by total of \$18,000.
WI	None	\$1,959,000, initiated in 2007	Appropriation approximately doubled, to about \$2 million in 2009-10 and \$2.36 million in 2010-11. Source to change from general revenue to increase in filing fee.
WY	None	None	

*This information was compiled by Meredith McBurney, Resource Development Consultant for the ABA Resource Center for Access to Justice Initiatives, a project of the Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants. This chart will be updated as information is received. For more information, or to submit updated information or corrections, please contact Meredith at 303-329-8091, or meredithmcburney@msn.com.

**Court fees and fines have generally not been impacted by budget cuts related to the financial crisis, and in some states have risen because of increased activity.