# NEW MEMBER GUIDE



STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN

Your Practice. Our Purpose.®

## INTRODUCTION

## **Welcome!** Your Support System Begins Here.

Lawyers in America's Dairyland have the advantage of comprehensive support from the State Bar of Wisconsin. We exist to help you succeed in law and in life. Your State Bar membership is packed with:

- Hundreds of resources to help you meet the requirements of practicing law in Wisconsin
- Tools to help you build your legal career
- Opportunities to lead, volunteer, and influence the future of the profession
- Support for living a balanced, fulfilling life

Come explore the many benefits of your State Bar membership!





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"The legal profession is the guardian of the dignity and integrity of the nation." – Pius Langa

#### **Mission Statement**

We support our members in a dynamic and diverse society in delivering valued professional services, promoting access to justice, and pursuing professional satisfaction.

#### **Bar History Highlights**

- 1878 Wisconsin Bar is organized
- 1941 First three practice-specific sections of the Bar are established
- 1948 First full-time staffed office is opened
- 1950 First annual Tax School CLE program is held; this popular session continues to the present day
- 1956 Wisconsin Bar is integrated by order of the Wisconsin Supreme Court
- 1977 CLE becomes mandatory for all active Wisconsin lawyers under the age of 70
- 1980 The State Bar's Lawyer Referral Program and Lawyer Hotline merged to form the Lawyer Referral and Information Service; as a result, the Bar developed the first of its kind computer program to match callers with attorneys
- 1980 Residency requirement for admission to practice in the state is eliminated
- Today The State Bar of Wisconsin welcomes you as a new lawyer and member!

#### **Know the Players**

**State Bar of Wisconsin:** The State Bar of Wisconsin is a professional association that provides continuing legal education, networking opportunities, practice management assistance, and other services to its more than 25,000 members. It also provides public services including attorney referrals, public education, and reduced-fee legal assistance for low-income state residents. Visit **wisbar.org** for all your State Bar resources.

**Board of Bar Examiners (BBE):** The BBE evaluates the skills, character, and fitness of lawyers and also writes and grades the Wisconsin Bar Examination. The Supreme Court requires the BBE to suspend a lawyer's license if he or she does not comply with continuing legal education requirements. Visit **wicourts.gov/courts/offices/bbe.htm** for more information.

**Office of Lawyer Regulation (OLR):** The Office of Lawyer Regulation is an agency of the Wisconsin Supreme Court. It receives grievances relating to lawyer misconduct, conducts investigations, and prosecutes violations of ethics rules. Visit **wicourts.gov/courts/offices/olr.htm**.

The State Bar of Wisconsin's website, **wisbar.org** is an easy way to access the perks of your membership and a large repository of legal news, resources, and tips.

## What Can You Do on WisBar?

Gain the full benefit of your State Bar membership by logging in to WisBar. Logging in grants you access to your personalized portal – *my*StateBar – as well as more comprehensive content that is part of your exclusive membership benefits.

- Review analysis of the latest court decisions
- Sign up for CLE and track your CLE credits
- Buy books to build your legal library
- Find tools to market your practice
- Register for conferences and institutes
- Sign up for enewsletters
- Find fellow lawyers with Lawyer Search
- Join a division or section, or request to serve on a committee
- And much more!

#### How to Log In

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- Go to wisbar.org
- In the green "WisBar Login" box, click "Login"
- The login form requires an email address or member number, and a password. If you were a State Bar of Wisconsin Law Student Associate, you can log in using those credentials.

## GET STARTED

#### **Email or Member Number**

Log in using the email address in your State Bar profile. If you do not know which email address we have on file for you, go to "Lawyer Search" at the top of the page and look up your name.

Your member number is your State Bar of Wisconsin membership number. You can find your membership number by searching for your name using "Lawyer Search."

NOTE: If your member number begins with a zero, such as 01020356, enter the number without the leading zero, for example: 1020356.



## STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN

#### Password

If you don't yet have a password or don't remember it, click "Forgot Password?"

On the Reset Password page, you will need to enter the email address that is in your State Bar profile. Once you submit the form, an email message containing instructions for resetting your password will be sent to that address. If you do not receive an email with these instructions, or do not have an email address on file, contact Customer Service at (800) 728-7788 or service@wisbar.org.

Email or Member	Number
JohnSmith@s	gmail.com
Password	
	•
Forgot Password?	
Forgot Password	e Log in

TIP: Wisbar.org allows you to log in to WisBar to order a product or register for an event, to access restricted content areas noted with a "lock" symbol, or to access your personal profile/CLE Tracker. Therefore – you will be prompted to re-enter your password periodically as a security precaution.

#### *my*StateBar: The Members Only Section

#### How to Access myStateBar

- Login to wisbar.org
- In the upper right-hand corner of the home page, click on myStateBar

#### mvStateBar Features

#### *my*Profile

Tell us a little about yourself. This section helps the State Bar maintain accurate information about members. Plus, your profile information is what people see when they search for you using WisBar's Lawyer Search feature – so always keep your profile page current. Your myProfile page includes sections for:

- Personal and business contact information
- Alternate names
- Areas of practice and focus areas
- Changing your password
- Degrees and memberships
- Short bio
- Social media and blog URLs
- Adding a profile picture



#### Continued on next page



Visit wisbar.org to start exploring.

## GET STARTED

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About U	\$ for	Members	Marketplace	News &	Publications	for Public
Home > P	rofile Page					
<i>my</i> Media	<i>my</i> CLETracker	<i>my</i> Profile	<i>my</i> Memberships	<i>my</i> History	<i>my</i> Staff	ADVERTISE WITH US

#### myStateBar Features (continued)

#### *my*CLETracker

With *my*CLETracker, it's easy to view your approved and pending CLE credits earned from the State Bar of Wisconsin. You can also enter credits from other providers. Note: *my*CLETracker is not a reporting mechanism – you'll still need to report your CLE credits to the BBE. (See page 7 for more on continuing legal education requirements.)

#### myMemberships

View your membership in State Bar divisions, sections, and committees. Manage your elist subscriptions and preferences. Plus, sign up to receive enewsletters.

#### *my*Media

Download or access electronic products, including:

- CLE webcasts and CLE OnDemand seminars
- CLE course materials
- Books UnBound<sup>®</sup> titles
- Fillable forms bank

#### *my*History

Keep track of your State Bar activities, including:

- Meeting attendance
- Product orders placed

You can also access articles you've saved on WisBar here.

#### myStaff

Much of the content you'll find on WisBar is only accessible to State Bar members. But what if your paralegal or legal assistant needs access, too? Use this section to grant or revoke access to WisBar content for your support staff.

#### *my*Dues

Renew your State Bar Dues, pay your Supreme Court Assessment, and complete your Trust Account Certificate through our convenient online portal. Initial admission payments must be submitted by mail; annual renewals can be processed through the State Bar Dues online payment system.

## Wisconsin CLE Requirements

The BBE monitors lawyer compliance with SCR Chapter 31, the rules outlining the continuing legal education attendance and reporting requirements for Wisconsin-licensed lawyers.

#### How many credits do I need?

As a Wisconsin lawyer, you need 30 continuing legal education (CLE) credits every two calendar years. Three of those 30 need to be in approved coursework in the area of legal ethics and professional responsibility (EPR).

Under new Supreme Court rules, lawyers have the option to earn a maximum of six credits on subjects designed to enhance a lawyer's awareness and understanding (LAU) of substance abuse/ dependence disorders, mental illness, stress management, and work/life balance relating to the practice of law.

Lawyers may obtain another six credits on the subject of law practice management (LPM) which may include topics such as client communications, trust accounting, record keeping, applications of technology, and other subjects essential to the practice of law. Courses or portions of courses dealing primarily with profit enhancement or marketing of services will be denied credit [see SCR 31.02].

#### How do I report?

Credits must be reported to the BBE using CLE Form 1. You can submit the form electronically at **clereporting.wicourts.gov** or download the form from **wicourts.gov/services/ attorney/edu** and submit by mail.

	UNRENE COURT OF WISCONSIN sard of Bar Examiners 0. Box 2748 adison, WI 53703-2748 Ilephone: (608) 266-9760		CLE FORM 1 2015-2016 REPORT OF COMPLIANCE WITH CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION REQUIREM (JANUARY 1, 2015 - JANUARY 31, 2017)	ENTS	
NOTE (The preferred matter alt	hom has changed, you must notify the Value Sar of His	contra	> 01/31/2017 (Reporting period end date) Course multi-locar period and date optical dates. Late locar sell 1 assessed for locary selection of or one physical actions to SCI 10.83. NOT ACCEPTED BY FAX.		
Mendership namber Attinities name	Last First	MJ	DO NOT SCAN THIS FORM Place provide the correct Information below: Berholzer Will bar administer		
The Wisconsin mand person volunteer bo	story CLI requirement is administered by the B	cand of Bar Examin plan 31, and duly a	s, please contact the office of the Board of Ear Examiners. Ins. an agency of the Septeme Court of Whicensin. The Board is hand Board multi-genera the Wicensin mandatory (21) progra- tics for the tales themselves. EXEMPTION IROM ATTENDANCE RECORDERING	n eieum- n. The	
() the following h	ovelo, I centify that my primary practice is in	SCRINGHUE	EALER' FOR FROM FAILURE AT EXCHANCE INCOMENTS Index for any activity constituting the grantice of law <u>in Microsoft</u> during the 2015-2016 motion prior to the end of that reporting period.	SCR 11.042	

It's very important that you keep track of the courses you take (what, when, where, the sponsor's name, and the number of CLE/EPR hours attended), because there is no central storage area for that information.

#### When do I report?

Your reporting year is determined by your year of admission to practice law in Wisconsin (e.g., if you were admitted in an odd-numbered year, instructions on reporting CLE will be sent by the BBE in the fall of every odd-numbered year).

Keep in mind that the CLE reporting deadline is different from the CLE attendance deadline. Check the BBE website for the correct attendance and reporting dates for your year of admission.

## LEGAL EDUCATION

## CONTINUE YOUR LEGAL EDUCATION

#### Wisconsin CLE Requirements (continued)

#### What CLE courses qualify?

The BBE determines which courses qualify to satisfy the CLE/EPR requirements. All CLE seminars that list an amount of CLE credits have either been approved for that credit amount or have credit applications pending before the Board of Bar Examiners.

Never assume courses have been approved for Wisconsin credit. Check the BBE website for a listing of approved CLE courses at **wicourts.gov/services/attorney/edu**. Attorneys may also earn CLE for teaching, publishing legal writing, and pro bono work.

For more on CLE requirements, visit **wicourts.gov/services/attorney/edu**. Note that noncompliance with the mandatory CLE requirements can result in suspension of your license.

## An Abundance of CLE

Earning CLE is a cinch with sessions on a wide variety of current, relevant topics. State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE<sup>®</sup> brings you Wisconsin's best seminar selection at the best value. Choose the seminar format you prefer, and as a State Bar of Wisconsin member, you get discounted tuition on all PINNACLE seminars!

## Enjoy special membersonly pricing!

#### **PINNACLE CLE Seminars**

State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE is the largest provider of continuing legal education in the state. With an emphasis on providing current, relevant, and practical legal information in a convenient and timely manner, PINNACLE is dedicated to meeting the needs of Wisconsin practitioners for continuing education in the information age. Seminars are available in a variety of convenient formats:

- In-person programs
- Live webcasts
- Webcast replays
- Web audio

Attend the live or webcast version of a seminar and receive free access to the webcast recording for 90 days. Review the webcast as many times as you like to gather tidbits you may have missed the first time through.



#### **CLE OnDemand**

Get CLE wherever and whenever you want it — 24/7. View select CLE programs to fulfill up to 15 CLE credits each reporting period with CLE OnDemand. Note that EPR credits cannot be earned via CLE OnDemand.

Note: At the request of the State Bar of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Supreme Court in 2020 temporarily eased CLE rules, and on Jan. 26, 2021, extended that order for 2021. Through the end of the 2021, lawyers can get all 30 credits through on-demand programs.

## **Institutes and Conferences**

Institutes and conferences include plenary speakers, multiple breakout sessions, networking and social events, and may include an expo area. They offer specialized, in-depth educational programming focused on select practice areas.

#### Wisconsin Solo & Small Firm Conference

Designed to meet the unique needs of solo and small firm practitioners, the *Wisconsin Solo & Small Firm Conference* brings together the broad-spectrum educational sessions and networking events these lawyers need to succeed. As one of our most popular annual events, it's an unmatched opportunity for you to learn, network, and have a little fun.



#### Join us this fall!

October 28-30, 2021



#### Annual Meeting & Conference

The Annual Meeting & Conference is the highlight of the year for many State Bar of Wisconsin members. It's packed with receptions, celebrations, and luncheons for networking and socializing. Plus, you can earn CLE credits from sessions featuring nationally-acclaimed presenters. If you want to mingle with the movers and shakers in Wisconsin's legal profession, don't miss the Annual Meeting & Conference.

Join us virtually this year! June 10 & 11, 2021

## State Bar Insider Info for Saving Money on CLE

#### Budget Your CLE Costs with PINNACLE Ultimate Pass™

#### **Ultimate Pass Gold**

PINNACLE Ultimate Pass Gold gives you unlimited access to PINNACLE CLE and events for one full year, including:

- Live, webcast, and CLE OnDemand seminars
- Annual Meeting & Conference
- Wisconsin Solo & Small Firm Conference

Plus, get unlimited access to all seminar course materials. It's the perfect way to explore new practice areas. Ultimate Pass Gold provides all of these benefits for one easy-to-budget annual fee.



#### **Ultimate Pass Silver**

The Ultimate Pass Silver gives you unlimited access for one year to live, webcast, and OnDemand PINNACLE CLE seminars, plus 50% off tuition to:

- State Bar of Wisconsin Annual Meeting & Conference
- Wisconsin Solo & Small Firm Conference

*Continued on next page* 

## Visit marketplace.wisbar.org for more education resources.

#### Ultimate Pass Corporate

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Have more than one attorney in your firm? The Ultimate Pass Corporate option allows firms to enjoy all the benefits of Ultimate Pass Gold at a lower per attorney price.

It puts a predictable cap on continuing legal education costs, and it makes receipt-tracking and reimbursements for CLE a thing of the past. It also helps firms expand into new areas of practice – without spending more on CLE.

#### **Convenient Payment Plan Options**

The State Bar offers convenient payment plans on several of its annual subscription products, including Ultimate Pass Gold, Ultimate Pass Silver, Books UnBound, and the complete Fillable Forms Library.

#### Passbook Certificates

Control your CLE costs with specially priced Passbook Certificates. Certificates are good for all PINNACLE and CLE OnDemand seminars, and are a great, flexible option for firms.

- Each Passbook Certificate is good for one PINNACLE or CLE OnDemand seminar
- Available in books of three or ten
- Good for two years from the date of purchase
- Fully transferable can be used by anyone in your organization

## P

#### ULTIMATE PASS

#### **EASY TO BUDGET**

With one annual fee, you'll always know your CLE costs.

#### **BIG SAVINGS**

Purchase an Ultimate Pass and save hundreds annually on CLE.

#### CONVENIENT

Fit education into your schedule on your terms. Attend a live seminar, catch a webcast replay, or choose an OnDemand recording.

#### **KEEP UP-TO-DATE**

Stay current on the latest developments in your key practice areas, or expand your offerings by learning a new area of practice.

#### **Enjoy Special New Member Pricing**

State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE is offering special pricing for new members on our most helpful products and services. Just log in to your *my*StateBar account on WisBar. org to reveal your special new member pricing.

\*Discount expires 365 days after member's State Bar of Wisconsin admission date. Special CLE program pricing does not apply to telephone or webcast audio programs. Special pricing available for online purchases and registrations only.

\*\*Free access expires six months after member's State Bar of Wisconsin admission date.

Ultimate Pass structure and pricing is subject to change without notice.



## STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN

## **Books**

Be prepared for whatever legal challenge comes your way and save yourself hours of research time with PINNACLE books. Written and reviewed by attorneys, this comprehensive library of treatises, system books, codebooks, and other publications is available electronically and in print.

## **PINNACLE Books**

From arbitration to worker's compensation and everything in between, PINNACLE books deliver content Wisconsin attorneys have trusted and relied on for decades. Many titles



include access to electronic forms. Update your legal library with books covering such topics as:

- Appellate practice
- Business organization and litigation
- Civil litigation and torts
- Creditor/Debtor
- Criminal law
- Elder
- Employment law

- Estate planning and probate
- Family law and divorce
- General practice
- Guardian ad litem
- Real Estate
- Traffic
- And more

## **Books UnBound®**

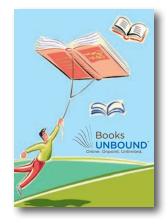
This subscription-based online library makes legal research more efficient and economical. Books UnBound offers 60 PINNACLE book titles in an easy-to-use electronic format. These digital books contain links to federal and state statutes and case law through Fastcase<sup>®</sup> as well as Wisconsin jury instructions for no additional fee.

Key features include:

- Use anywhere you have an internet connection
- User-friendly interface
- · Free access to supplements, forms, and checklists
- Links to news and events
- · Optimized for smartphone and tablet access
- · Client billing timer for tracking time spent researching
- Fully searchable
- · Option to add bookmarks and personal notes to book sections

#### **Online Forms**

Get the legal form or checklist you need with PINNACLE's Fillable Forms Bank. Organized into distinct practice areas, the Forms Bank includes eight libraries - real estate law, family law, criminal law, elder law, civil litigation, business law, probate/estate planning, and appellate practice.



## Visit marketplace.wisbar.org for more education resources.

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## Be In the Know

From breaking news to court analysis to insights from thought-leaders – the State Bar of Wisconsin is your ultimate resource for legal news and trends. Our award-winning publications will help keep you informed on the issues impacting your practice.

#### **Government Relations**

The State Bar's Government Relations program connects State Bar members with state government officials--including legislators, executive and judicial branch agencies and their staff-to improve the administration of justice and the delivery of legal services in Wisconsin. The GR team is the lobbying arm of the State Bar and some of its practice sections. It is also responsible for tracking Supreme Court Rules and fostering effective communication and relations with the judicial branch.

The "Advocacy Network" is the grassroots arm of the GR program. It aims to help State Bar members become successful legislative advocates. More information and the online action center can be found at **wisbar.org/GovRelations**. In addition, the GR program provides updates about developments inside the Capitol dome through its monthly e-newsletter, *Rotunda Report*.



#### **Publications**

#### Wisconsin Lawyer™ Magazine

As the State Bar's flagship publication, *Wisconsin Lawyer* magazine delivers the insights, stories, and knowledge attorneys rely on to excel in their practice and lead the profession.

This member benefit is delivered to your door and available online at **wisbar.org/wl**.

# NEWS & TRENDS

#### WisBar InsideTrack™

Stay up-to-date on Wisconsin legal developments and State Bar news with *WisBar InsideTrack*, an electronic publication delivered twice monthly to your email.

Find it online at **wisbar.** org/insidetrack.



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## STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN

#### CaseLaw Express™

Keep pace with Supreme Court and Court of Appeals decisions with this member-only email service delivered every Monday. Subscribe to CaseLaw Express at **wisbar.org/caselaw** or via the myMembership tab your myStateBar profile.





#### Rotunda Report

Understand legislative, judicial, and administrative developments that affect the legal profession and the justice system with this enewsletter — included in your membership.

Subscribe today at wisbar.org/rotundareport or via the myMembership tab your myStateBar profile.

## **Social Media**

Connect with your colleagues and Wisconsin's legal community! Join the conversation and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, YouTube, and elsewhere. We want to hear from you!

Visit wisbar.org/social for a full listing of social media accounts.





#### **RSS Feeds**

Stay up-to-date on your favorite legal news and blogs. Subscribe to our RSS feeds and have the information sent directly to you.

- All News
- WisBar News
- Wisconsin Lawyer™magazine
- WisBar InsideTrack™
- Rotunda Report
- Press Releases
- Section/Division Blogs

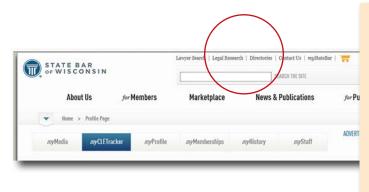
Visit wisbar.org/rss to subscribe.

## Visit wisbar.org/publications to find these resources.

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## Research Tools to Rock Your World

From people, to places, to things, find what you need fast with the outstanding research tools and resources available to State Bar members.



#### WisBar: Your One-Stop Research Shop

Have legal research to do, but aren't sure where to start? Try WisBar first. It's home to a comprehensive selection of listings, directories, search engines, and other helpful research tools.

## Directories

If you need to find a person, resource, or rule related to the practice of law in Wisconsin, the Directories page on **wisbar.org** can help you find it.:

- Wisconsin Circuit Court Rules
- Court Directory
- Lawyer Search
- Lawyer-to-Lawyer Directory
- Wisconsin Lawyer Directory
- State Bar Leadership and Staff Directories
- Wisconsin Law-related Organizations and Agencies
- Professional Services Law Related
- State of Wisconsin Directories

To access the Directories page, simply click on "Directories" at the top of the **wisbar.org** home page.

## Legal Research Page

It's the ultimate legal search engine for State Bar members. Have a question? Can't find the right form? Need a citation? Type it into Legal Research to search within Fastcase, wisbar.org, and any of your Books UnBound subscriptions. Plus, find quick links to the following resources:

- Wisconsin Circuit Court access (CCAP)
- Wisconsin Circuit Court forms
- Wisconsin Circuit Court rules
- Wisconsin Court of Appeals opinions
- Wisconsin Court of Appeals forms
- Wisconsin Court of Appeals case access
- Wisconsin Supreme Court opinions and dispositional orders

- Wisconsin Supreme Court case access
- Wisconsin Administrative Code
- Wisconsin Statutes and Annotations
- Wisconsin court and agency forms
- Federal resources

To access the Legal Research page, click on "Legal Research" at the top of the **wisbar.org** home page.

#### STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN

"Looking to keep legal research costs affordable? Take some time and become familiar with Fastcase. It's a benefit provided to State Bar members and it's just what you'll need for case law research. Your Fastcase benefit alone is worth what you pay in membership dues."

Member, State Bar Board of Governors

#### **Fastcase**<sup>®</sup>

Experience the power and ease of Fastcase, the next-generation online legal research system. Your membership entitles you to unlimited access to a comprehensive 50-state and federal case law database, and Wisconsin jury instructions.



Access Fastcase through the Legal Research page on **wisbar.org**. You can find free online demonstrations and answers to frequently asked questions at **fastcase.com/support**.

**Search your way.** Whether you want to search using natural language, keywords, or look up a citation, Fastcase gives you options.

Filter your search results by jurisdiction. Narrow the number of cases you see by running a search and then choosing a jurisdiction filter option.

**Seminal cases are included.** Thanks to a Fastcase tool called Forecite, when you perform a keyword search on Fastcase, Forecite goes the extra mile and identifies seminal cases that can be easily missed by ordinary keyword searches.

**Citations are simple.** Just highlight the appropriate text, click "Copy Citation," and get a Bluebook-friendly cite.

#### Loislaw Libraries on Fastcase

Lower your legal research costs and save time with Loislaw, a comprehensive treatise library within the Fastcase platform. State Bar members enjoy exclusive pricing on a Loislaw subscription that includes a robust online library, free training, and 24/7 technical support.

## Visit wisbar.org/research to find these resources.

Your practice is our purpose. In other words, we're here to help you succeed with a wide array of tools, resources, and support to help you manage every aspect of your practice.

## Lawyer Like a Boss: Business Management Resources

#### Practice411 Law Office Management Assistance Program

If you're looking for guidance on managing the business aspects of your law practice, we've got the 411 – the Practice411<sup>™</sup>, that is. This free State Bar program is here to help you make smart choices about everything relating to the day-to-day operations of your practice with individualized assistance on topics such as:

- Financial planning
- Business development
- Setting up a law firm
- Personnel

- Facilities
- Marketing
- Operations management
- Technology and software

PRACTICE

Whether you work in the public, private, or non-profit sectors, Practice411 can help improve your office's effectiveness and your quality of life. Visit **wisbar.org/practice411** for more information.

## **Ethics Hotline**

Facing an ethical conundrum? As a State Bar member, you have access to guidance and help in resolving questions regarding Wisconsin's Rules of Professional Conduct for Attorneys. Call our free Ethics Hotline at (800) 254-9154 or visit **wisbar.org/ethics** to contact an experienced ethics lawyer.



## PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

## Wisconsin Lawyers Assistance Program (WisLAP)

WisLAP provides free and confidential assistance to lawyers, judges,



law students, and their families in coping with any substance use problem, mental health challenge, or other stressor which negatively impacts the quality of life and/or the practice of law. WisLAP staff and trained volunteer attorneys and judges provide supportive services that promote physical and emotional health. WisLAP's primary focus is maintaining the health and wellness of the legal community. Starting out in law can be as challenging as it is exciting. WisLAP can help you optimize your personal and professional well-being. Give them a call at (800) 543-2625.

## Save Time and Improve Accuracy: Fillable Forms and Document Assembly

#### Forms

Finish paperwork in a flash with our online Fillable Forms Bank. Access more than 1.300 forms and documents

from affidavits to summonses. Easily modify any form to fit your needs. Every form is reviewed and updated regularly to ensure it complies with all required statutory specifications. The Fillable Forms Bank is organized into eight practice-specific sections, including:

- Appellate Practice
- Business Law
- Civil Litigation
- Criminal Law
- Elder Law
- Estate Planning/Probate
- Family Law
- Real Estate

You can also subscribe to the entire library. Payment plans are available for full library subscriptions.



#### WisDocs Estate Planning

The future of forms is here. WisDocs Estate Planning is the State Bar of Wisconsin's estate planning document assembly system. Simply select the form you wish to create, and a dynamic, guided interview tool asks you for all the needed information. Once the interview is completed, one click assembles the required provisions and fills in the provided answers.

It's compiled from dozens of forms and sample-language provisions from the award-winning *Eckhardt's Workbook for Wisconsin Estate Planners*, allowing you to create:

- Wills
- Revocable trusts
- Marital property agreements
- Durable powers of attorney
- Advance care planning
- And more

## Wisconsin eCourts System

Visit the Wisconsin Court System's online eCourts webpage for easy access to a variety of services, including:

- · Court fees and fines payment
- Forms
- Juror services
- Circuit and appellate court eFiling
- CLE reporting

#### Visit wicourts.gov/ecourts



Visit wisbar.org/formembers for helpful practice management tools.



## MANAGE YOUR PRACTICE

## Show 'em How It's Done: Top-Notch Training Tools

#### Law Office Videos

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Build an effective client training program with Law Office Videos. From depositions to courtroom proceedings, Law Office Videos provide realistic, understandable client training using DVDs and accompanying workbooks. Developed by lawyers for lawyers, they offer the kinds of proven insights you can only get from other legal professionals. Law Office Videos also offers staff training videos to help you polish the professionalism of your office employees.



## Put Your Name in Lights: Marketing Tools

#### **Consumer Handbooks**



Written by lawyers, consumer handbooks explain the basics of probate, health care decisions, and guardianship while highlighting your firm as THE source to turn to for legal assistance. They make great leave-behinds, content for your website, and talking points when working with new clients.

## Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS)

Build your client base with high-quality, prescreened referrals from our Lawyer Referral and Information Service. LRIS is an important public service that connects consumers with legal resources to match their needs.

Each year, LRIS referral specialists field nearly 40,000 contacts from Wisconsin citizens. When you join LRIS,



you choose the areas of practice and geographic locations in which you'd like to receive client referrals. It's a great way to grow your business into new practice areas and geographies.

#### NOMOS



Access a full service digital marketing agency to help you build your online and real time presence through customized marketing programs.

#### **Zola Creative**

Build a powerful web presence with a completely custom website design and SEO promotion for smaller law firms. State Bar of Wisconsin members receive a discount.



## **Get Paid: Payment Processing Tools**

#### LawPay

LawPay Electronic Billing Service lets you securely accept credit card payments online via your website or by email. Compliant with all ABA and state client fund management requirements,



LawPay automatically separates payments into your trust and operating accounts. Streamline your collections process and increase your cash flow with LawPay. State Bar members save up to 25% off credit card processing fees when they purchase this helpful service.

#### **Fee Arbitration Program**

Fee disagreements with clients can be stressful, time-consuming, and costly. The State Bar's Fee Arbitration Program gives you the option to resolve fee conflicts in a private hearing before a panel of trained arbitrators. Preserve your privacy, avoid undue publicity, and save time and money with the confidential, low-cost Fee Arbitration Program.

## Stay Organized: Practice Management Software Solutions

#### Clio



Clio is a comprehensive, easy-to-use, cloud-based law practice management software. From intake to invoice, find the tools you need to manage cases, clients, documents, bills, appointments, time-tracking, reporting, and accounting. State Bar members enjoy a 10% lifetime

discount on Clio plus unlimited access to live customer support and training.

## Identillect

User-Friendly email security encryption that ensures total security and control over your sensitive email communications, both outbound and when recipients respond. State Bar members receive a 20% discount.



## MyCase

🗊 mycase

Manage cases with ease using MyCase practice management software. MyCase lets you work anywhere, from any device with a secure portal. Accept online payments, track time, and even generate firm reports. As a

State Bar member, you get a 30-day free trial plus a 10% lifetime discount on MyCase.

#### **Practice Panther**

Practice Panther is an easy-to-use case management solution designed to aid communication, document management, trust accounting and billing.



Tabs3

Discover a simple integrated suite of desktop or cloud-based products from billing and practice management to trust accounting.

## Visit wisbar.org/formembers for helpful practice management tools.

## MANAGE YOUR PRACTICE

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## Handy Office Help: Save on Supplies and Services

### Office Depot Partner Advantage<sup>™</sup> Program

State Bar members get special pricing at all Office Depot locations and online. Save big on all kinds of supplies for your law office, including:

- Digital print services
- Paper
- Furniture
- Technology

Lenovo

• More than 25,000 office products

#### Lenovo Savings Program - New!

A Member Bundt of With Constant With Constant SPC Account # 8012 739 6081 CARDHOLDER INSTRUCTIONS: Constrained advances rays to ad Chica Depart or Office Mare Store Marphage for Capy & Pintzarvos, Son sevense for data.

Whether for the home or the office, save up to 30% off the everyday public web price of Lenovo products and services including Lenovo laptops, tablets, desktops, all-in-ones, workstations, servers and

accessories, and award-winning ThinkPad laptops and innovative multimode YOGA tablets.

## **Dell Computer Discounts**

State Bar members can take advantage of exclusive offers on business-class products, consumer-class products or electronics and accessories.



## **Classified Ads**

#### **CLASSIFIEDS / SERVICES**

- **Career Opportunities**
- For Sale or Rent / Wanted
- Member Discounts
- Professional Services & Experts
- Court Reporters
- Abstract Title
- Attorney Referral

In need of office space or furniture? Need to find legal service providers? Check out our classified ads with sections for:

- Attorney Referral
- Professional Services & Experts
- Career Opportunities
- For Sale or Rent/Wanted
- Court Reporters
- Abstract Title

Classified ads are listed in each issue of Wisconsin Lawyer magazine and also appear online at wisbar.org. State Bar members can place classified ads at discounted rates.

## **Car Rental Discounts**

Put the pedal to the metal. Get special discounts on car rentals through Avis and Budget. But these discounts aren't just for business rentals – use them for personal rentals, too!



#### Save up to 50% with UPS

UPS

## Improve your bottom line with competitive rates on a variety of UPS<sup>®</sup> shipping services.

#### Verizon - New!

Get exclusive savings on a variety of Verizon Wireless services for business. Plus, you can also share Verizon discounts with your employees.



BONUS DRIVE

#### **Bonus Drive - New!**

Get up to \$500 cash back when you choose from a lineup of award winning vehicles.

## Practice Law Knowing You Are Protected: Insurance Programs

#### Cyber Insurance - New!



Let the experts at BIZLock help empower you as a small business to better prevent, protect against, and respond to cyber crime. Resources and insurance is provided for Cyber Extortion, Automatic employee identity protection,

eNetwork business interruption, data reconstruction and media/website liability and more.

## Crime Coverage Policy - New!

If you're a solo or small firm looking to protect your trust account under SCR 20:1.15(f)(3)c.2, use this convenient option developed specifically to fulfill the "bond or crime policy" required by the Supreme Court.

## Surety Bond Policies - New!

Expanded bond coverage to provide you with everything you need to cover a variety of client or business needs is just a click away. Whether court bonds, probate bonds, notary bonds or title agency/ agent bonds, it's available and convenient.



## TASC - New!

TASC can provide you a wide variety of tax-savings incentives ranging from retirement to medical savings accounts 22

## **Professional Liability Insurance**

Protect your firm from malpractice claims with professional liability insurance through Wisconsin Lawyers Mutual Insurance

Company (WILMIC). Created by lawyers, for

lawyers, WILMIC has been providing the services Wisconsin lawyers need for more than 30 years. Discover the reassurance that comes from professional liability insurance with superior claims administration.

## Dental Insurance

**DELTA DENTAL**<sup>®</sup> Keep on smiling with special member savings on

dental insurance plans through Delta Dental of Wisconsin. Whether you choose the nation's largest dental network as part of the Premier Plan or the low fees of the PPO Plan, all Delta Dental insurance plans offer appealing benefits, including:

- Attractive rates
- CheckUp Plus benefit that excludes benefits paid for diagnostic and preventive care from the individual annual benefit maximum for the plan
- Orthodontic benefits to dependents up to age 18
- Option for dependents to stay on the plan until age 26

#### Vision Plan

State Bar of Wisconsin members enjoy big savings on vision benefits through the EyeMed Vision Plan. Two different plans offer varying rate and co-pay levels so you can choose the right option for your budget. You'll get access to the biggest nationwide network of vision specialists at an economical price through EyeMed Vision.

## Other Available Coverage

Protect yourself, your family, and your business with insurance and benefit plans through the State Bar of Wisconsin. As a member, you can take advantage of discounts on coverage for everything from cars to casualties. Many of these plans are open to your staff as well:

- Group health plan •
- Auto
- Home
- Life

- Long-term care and disability
- Group accidental death and dismemberment
- Property and casualty for firms

## **Financial Planning**

ABA

## 401(k) Retirement Savings

Solo or small-firm practitioners can have difficulty finding Retirement retirement plans with no out-of-pocket expenses, professional • • • • Funds fiduciary services, a broad range of investment options, and full-service administration. 401(k) plans through ABA Retirement

Funds offer all that and more. Whether you're interested in an individual plan or need an overall plan for your entire firm, ABA Retirement Funds specializes in creating and managing unique 401(k) plans to fit your needs.

## Visit wisbar.org/formembers for more discounted products & services.





## **Leaders Wanted**

Get involved with your State Bar and gain valuable skills, peer recognition, and experience while influencing the direction of the legal profession in Wisconsin.

## **Sections and Divisions**

Connect with fellow members in your practice areas through State Bar sections and divisions. Build relationships with, and learn from, others who share your interests in various legal niches.



## Divisions

#### Young Lawyers Division

If you are under age 36 or in your first five years of practice following Bar admission, you are automatically a member of this exciting division! The Young Lawyers Division (YLD) provides leadership development and networking opportunities and equips you to contribute to the community, local bar associations, and the State Bar.

Benefits and activities include:

- Legal education seminars
- Career assistance
- Public service projects

The best part? Membership is absolutely free!

- Networking opportunities
- Leadership experience



#### Young Lawyers Conference

This annual spring program, hosted by the YLD, is a don't-miss event for the young lawyers of Wisconsin. The conference offers opportunities to earn CLE, create long-lasting relationships with your peers, and provides valuable and unique information about the challenges and rewards of being a new lawyer. Kick off your career with this popular event and learn from judges, experienced practitioners, and your peers.

#### 24 Sections and Divisions (continued)

#### **Government Lawyers Division**

The Government Lawyers Division (GLD) is open to any voting member of the State Bar receiving a salary from a government unit. It promotes, enriches, and supports the professional needs, interests, and expertise of public sector attorneys. GLD members can enjoy:

- Professional growth through special CLE courses
- · Support from the quarterly member newsletter, email list, and other resources
- · Opportunities for involvement in committees, specialty councils, and special events

#### **Nonresident Lawyers Division**

The Nonresident Lawyers Division (NRLD) helps nonresident members maintain their ties with Wisconsin. Members practicing outside of Wisconsin automatically belong to this complimentary group and join a growing number of NRLD chapters across the country. The NRLD promotes communication, networking, and business opportunities among nonresident State Bar members. It also gives nonresident members the chance to participate in the State Bar's governance and policy development. Benefits are available to both active and inactive members.



#### **Senior Lawyers Division**

The Senior Lawyers Division (SLD) offers activities and content specifically designed for the needs and interests of senior lawyers. This division also provides opportunities for senior lawyers to stay connected with the State Bar as well as opportunities to assist young lawyers. All State Bar members 60 years or older are eligible for SLD membership.

Visit wisbar.org/groups to get started on the path to leadership.



## Join a State Bar Section and Start Making Connections Today!

All Sections offer at least a year\* of free membership to newly admitted attorneys. After this period, you only have to pay low annual section dues ranging from only \$20-\$44 per year.

In addition, the Elder Law, Family Law, Intellectual Property & Technology Law, and Litigation Sections offer two years of free membership to new attorneys.

Although each section offers its own unique benefits, in general, Sections:

- publish newsletters/blogs covering current trends and topics
- sponsor CLE programs that Section members can attend for a reduced fee
- influence state and federal policy
- host networking events
- · coordinate valuable services and projects for section members and the public

In addition, the Elder Law and Special Needs, Family Law, Intellectual Property & Technology Law, and Litigation Sections offer two years of free membership to new attorneys.

Joining is easy! Choose from 24 area-specific sections:

- Administrative & Local Government Law
- Appellate Practice
- Bankruptcy, Insolvency and Creditors Rights'
- Business Law
- Children & the Law
- Civil Rights & Liberties
- Construction & Public Contract Law
- Criminal Law
- Dispute Resolution
- Elder Law and Special Needs
- Environmental Law
- Family Law

- Health Law
- Indian Law
- Intellectual Property & Technology Law
- International Practice
- Labor & Employment Law
- Litigation
- Public Interest Law
- Public Utilities
- Real Property, Probate & Trust Law
- Solo/Small Firm & General Practice
- Sports & Entertainment Law
- Taxation Law

## Learn more by visiting www.wisbar.org/groups

## LEAD THE WAY

## 26 Volunteer

Whether you're looking to make new friends and contacts, learn new skills, or pursue a passion, volunteering within the State Bar of Wisconsin can help you fulfill personal and professional goals. To learn more and get involved, visit **wisbar.org**  $\rightarrow$  **forMembers**  $\rightarrow$  **Leadership**.



#### **Board of Governors**

The Board of Governors (BOG) manages and directs the affairs and activities of the State Bar of Wisconsin. The BOG and its officers play major roles in influencing the future of Wisconsin's legal profession. Play your own part by running for a two-year term.

Governors work to help the State Bar ensure that Wisconsin attorneys meet and maintain the highest standards of competency, technical skill, and ethical conduct. They also contribute to ensuring Wisconsin citizens have equal access to legal services of the highest quality, and to a system that affords prompt and fair resolution.

#### Committees

The State Bar depends on you to make it an effective organization. Committee service is a great way to get involved. We have more than 25 standing and special committees dedicated to a variety of key issues. From leadership development to legal assistance, you're bound to find a committee that piques your interests.

## Local, Affinity and Specialty Bars

Looking to narrow the focus of your involvement? Check out the list of local, affinity, and specialty bar associations the State Bar supports at wisbar.org/bars.

By working together on special projects, newsletters, programs, and other initiatives, these partnerships strengthen the legal profession as a whole.

## Write for State Bar Publications

Publishing articles in respected publications is an effective way to establish your reputation as an expert in a particular area of law and grow your professional network. Some types of writing may allow you to obtain up to 15 CLE credits for "legal writings." Explore the number of ways to contribute to State Bar publications.

- Wisconsin Lawyer<sup>™</sup> magazine includes feature articles and a variety of shorter columns, including viewpoints, risk management, practice tips, technology, career advice, and book reviews.
- WisBar *InsideTrack*<sup>™</sup> articles are intended to distill timely and relevant information in a quick, easy-to-read format.
- Section & Division newsletters and journals include timely articles on issues affecting the practice of law and provide insight into legislative, court, and State Bar developments that affect a particular area of practice or interest.
- State Bar of Wisconsin PINNACLE<sup>®</sup> is the premier publisher of practice guides and handbooks for Wisconsin's attorneys, written by Wisconsin's attorneys. It relies on the expertise and contributions of volunteers from within the State Bar of Wisconsin membership to help develop and deliver relevant information to assist Wisconsin's attorneys provide the highest-quality representation and service.

#### Wisbar.org/contribute

### Become a PINNACLE CLE Presenter

Using the skill and expertise of volunteer lawyers, PINNACLE presents 70-80 live seminars annually. PINNACLE seminars address new legislation and developments in case law, practice management, litigation, negotiation, cutting-edge technology, and in-depth coverage of substantive areas of law.

Have an idea for a CLE seminar? Want to become a presenter? Email cle@wisbar.org.

## **Training and Support**

Your State Bar can help you lay the foundation for a successful legal career with top-notch leadership training and mentorship programs.

## G. Lane Ware Leadership Academy

Take your leadership skills to the next level. The Academy is a comprehensive leadership development training program specifically designed to empower lawyers like you with the skills, strategies, and resources to become effective leaders in their careers, communities, local and state bar associations, and the profession itself.

#### Wisbar.org/leadershipacademy

#### **Leadership Summit**

Each year, twenty-four young lawyers nominated by State Bar leaders statewide attend the State Bar of Wisconsin Leadership Summit. The program brings together State Bar leaders, past and present, and provides the next generation of leaders the chance to explore State Bar involvement opportunities, gain insight from experienced State Bar leaders, and helps new attorneys find their niche. Find more information about the nomination process at **wisbar.org/ls**.

## Visit wisbar.org/formembers for more information.



## LEAD THE WAY

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## Ready. Set. Practice.



You don't have to go it alone. The Ready.Set.Practice. mentoring program matches both new lawyers and lawyers looking for guidance in learning a new parctice area with mentor lawyers having six or more years of experience.

Get the guidance you need to navigate the legal community, receive help with procedural or ethical questions, enhance your competence,

and expand your network.

#### Wisbar.org/readysetpractice

## **Greater Wisconsin Initiative**

The State Bar's Greater Wisconsin Initiative encourages attorneys to consider practicing in Greater Wisconsin. We're here to help you learn if rural practice is right for you and provide you with the resources you need to get started. Wisconsin's rural population tops 1.6 million. With many lawyers approaching retirement age, more and more nonurban communities are at risk of losing access to legal services. Why? As attorneys retire, there aren't always other lawyers around to take their place.



Some areas of Wisconsin are already experiencing the

consequences of lawyer shortages. More than 60 percent of Wisconsin lawyers are located in the state's three urban counties. On the other hand, a number of nonurban counties have fewer than 10 lawyers each. Many more counties have fewer than 20 lawyers.

What happens when a rural area no longer has a lawyer? Vital legal needs go unmet and access to justice is jeopardized. What does this mean for you as a new lawyer? Opportunities abound all over Wisconsin to establish your practice!

#### Five Reasons to Consider Greater Wisconsin

- 1. The Fast Track to Experience: People and businesses in Greater Wisconsin have the same legal needs as those in larger cities. Typically, in nonurban areas, there is a small number of lawyers serving entire communities, which means you have the opportunity to address a wide variety of legal issues criminal defense, business start-up, contracts, you name it. As a result, you may develop a broad range of skills and get more real-world experience, like more courtroom time, early in your career.
- 2. Mentoring Opportunities: Find rewarding mentoring experiences as you work closely with existing lawyers in the area or an attorney you may one day take over for.
- 3. Scenic and Exciting Amenities: Parks, lakes, trails, and other outdoor attractions make the perfect backdrop for hiking, biking, fishing, or watersports. Escape a hectic day at the office and recharge in the quiet, peaceful settings of lakes and forested hills.
- 4. Chances for Community Involvement: Whether you're interested in local history or have a desire to help area youth, small towns depend on dedicated volunteers to help meet the needs of the community. Getting involved in a local group helps you contribute to your community, develop leadership skills, gain visibility in the area, and make new friends. Your neighbors and clients will may be members of the same organizations, giving you the chance to truly get to know them.
- 5. **Commutes:** Just because small towns might be farther apart doesn't mean drive times are longer they may just be more scenic. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, commutes in urban areas of Wisconsin are roughly equal to or even longer than nonurban commutes.

The State Bar abounds with opportunities for you to give back to the legal profession and use your unique skills to help others. It's easy to get involved.

### **Wisconsin Law Foundation**

As the State Bar's charitable arm, the Wisconsin Law Foundation promotes public understanding of the law. It also works to improve the administration of justice and

other law- related public services by funding innovative and creative programs that improve the vision of the American justice system, including:

- · Programs focused on developing the next generation of legal leaders
- The Wisconsin High School Mock Trial Program
- · New diversity initiatives, speakers and programs
- Scholarships that help new lawyers reduce debt and establish practices in underserved areas
- Teen Court programs across the state

None of this is possible without contributions from State Bar members like you. To learn more and donate go to **wisbar.org/wlf**.

## **Public Education**

## Wisconsin High School Mock Trial Program



Since its creation in 1983, the Wisconsin High School Mock Trial Program has brought our legal system to life for thousands of students. Using facts and case materials developed by Wisconsin attorneys, students gain a deeper

understanding of the court system as they develop their arguments and build their cases.

Every year, hundreds of judges and attorneys are needed to judge mock trials as part of the Wisconsin High School Mock Trial Tournament. Visit **wisbar.org/mocktrial** to learn how you can get involved.

## PAY IT FORWARD

## Pro Bono

For too many Wisconsin residents, equal



justice under the law is out of reach because they cannot afford the professional legal help they need. Wisconsin lawyers are uniquely qualified to help close this justice gap by offering their services pro bono.

Pro bono service strengthens your existing skills, exposes you to new areas of law, and helps you network with other professionals. The State Bar supports members who do pro bono work with:

- Pro Bono Initiative grants to develop or expand pro bono legal assistance projects
- Free liability insurance
- Expense reimbursement
- Online pro bono opportunities guide

#### wisbar.org/probono

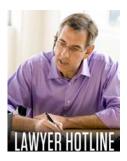


#### Modest Means Referral Service

State Bar members who volunteer to join the Modest Means Panel agree to provide services at reduced cost to moderate income clients who have been screened by our Lawyer Referral and Information Service (LRIS). By accepting reduced fees, you can help ensure there is legal assistance available to people who need alternative payment options. Email LRISresponse@ wisbar.org to volunteer or get more information.

#### wisbar.org/modestmeans

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#### Lawyer Hotline

Can you spare two hours? Then volunteer to answer basic legal questions as part of the Lawyer Hotline. The Lawyer Hotline is an option for people who have simple questions about a legal issue having to do with landlord-tenant law, small claims court, wills, and the like.

Callers receive a scheduled time when a Hotline volunteer will call them back to discuss their question. Volunteers then meet at the State Bar Center or other location for two hours to return calls.

Email LRISresponse@wisbar.org to volunteer.

#### **Wisconsin Free Legal Answers**

By letting Wisconsin residents post a legal question to an online portal, Wisconsin Free Legal Answers makes legal advice more available to more people living in Wisconsin. Volunteer attorneys like you are needed to answer posted questions. Simply log in to the site when you can, select the questions you want to answer, and respond when it's



convenient. The entire exchange takes place online through the American Bar Association's portal. Volunteering is a great way to engage in pro bono work without having to take on additional clients or obligations.

#### wi.freelegalanswers.org

## Visit wisbar.org/memberbenefits for more information.

# Your journey as a Wisconsin lawyer has just begun.

# We'll be with you every step of the way!

## **Contact Us**

**Phone** (800) 728-7788

Website www.wisbar.org

Email memberbenefits@wisbar.org service@wisbar.org

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