Break the Cycle

Empowering Youth to End Domestic Violence

STATE-BY-STATE TEEN DATING VIOLENCE REPORT CARD 2008

Break the Cycle State-by-State Report Card
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For more information about this report, please contact Break the Cycle.

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State-by-State Report Card
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STATE-BY-STATE REPORT CARD
EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW

As the leading voice for teens on the issue of dating violence, Break the Cycle advocates for policy and legislative changes to better protect the rights and promote the health of teens nationwide. Engaging, educating and empowering youth through prevention and intervention programs, Break the Cycle helps young people identify and build safe, healthy relationships.

One in three teens will experience some form of abuse in a dating relationship. Teens who suffer from abusive relationships exhibit increased rates of substance abuse, high-risk sexual behaviors, eating disorders and suicidality. Teen victims are substantially more likely than classmates to bring weapons to school and three times as likely to be involved in a physical fight.

Sadly, teens face overwhelming obstacles to getting help such as limited access to basic securities like money, shelter and transportation. Exacerbating the barriers for teens are the widespread statutory restrictions that exist because so few states recognize teens as victims of domestic abuse. In fact, teens experience abuse at extremely high rates and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 exhibit the highest rates of abuse—above any other age group.

To call attention to this critical situation, Break the Cycle set out to assess the climate of each state's laws and their impact on teens seeking protection from abusive relationships. Initially, the aim of the research was to compile an up-to-date single location of this state-by-state information for teens and those who care about them.

However, after the preliminary research was completed, Break the Cycle identified a series of common trends (both negative and positive) that called for further analysis. The factors were then grouped into larger categories, which were placed in order from most adverse to most protective. Point values (ranging from -5 to +5) were assigned to each category depending on whether the statute language was helpful or harmful in the protection of minors.

Once final scores were tallied, the numbers were converted to percentages with the following distribution:

A	**≥81%**
B	**71% - 80%**
C	**63% - 70%**
D	**55% - 62%**
F	**≤54% or automatic failure**

Only three states received A's—California, Oklahoma, and New Hampshire. Fifteen states failed, with twelve of those states receiving an automatic failure.

Break the Cycle hopes these grades will spur action among state legislatures throughout the country and activism among our nation's youth. It is essential that dating violence and the needs of minor victims be specifically addressed within state domestic violence statutes. Lawmakers have a responsibility to address this issue and to propose legislation that will ensure the protection of all victims of domestic violence—regardless of their age.

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STATE-BY-STATE REPORT CARD
FACTORS CONSIDERED FOR EVALUATION & GRADING

Positive Factors

- The statute includes various lesser offenses within its definition of abuse that make it easier for a victim to get a restraining or protective order (e.g. cyberstalking, harassing phone calls, sexually oriented offenses, stalking, emotional abuse, animal cruelty)
- Generally, the length of the restraining order lasts for one year. Anything more than one year is positive and longer than two years is extremely positive.
- The statute provides the victim with various kinds of compensation (e.g. medical expenses, injuries, insurance, moving expenses, lost earnings, reimbursement for meals, pain and suffering).
- The statute allows minors to file a restraining or protective order without an adult's involvement.
- The statute recognizes extended degrees of family members under the group that may get a restraining or protective order on behalf of a minor or are protected by the order (e.g. step, grandparent, child, second cousin).
- The statute allows victim to obtain a restraining or protective order against minors within a certain age limit.

Negative Factors

- Sexual abuse is not included within the definition of abuse.
- The statute does not include a stay away order.
- Dating is not recognized but sexual relations are recognized.
- The statute specifically identifies heterosexual relationships as the only group afforded domestic violence protection.
- The statute does not include personal relationships in which the parties are residing together.
- The statute does not provide for child custody, child or spousal support for the victim requesting a protective or restraining order.
- The statute requires a minor to get parental permission when seeking a restraining or protective order.
- The statute does not protect other individuals under the restraining or protective order (i.e. family members, children, and/or other household members).
- The statute does not specify who files for a petition on behalf of a minor (because minors cannot file on their own).
- Generally, the length of the restraining order lasts for one year. Anything less than one year is negative.
- The statute does not allow restraining orders to be filed against someone under 18 years of age.

Automatic Failure

- Dating relationships are not specifically recognized as valid domestic relationships for obtaining restraining orders.
- Protective orders and restraining orders are not available to minors.

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STATE-BY-STATE REPORT CARD
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Below is a summary of findings on how state domestic violence restraining order laws address the circumstances teen victims face.

Dating Relationships

- Thirty-eight states and the District of Columbia allow victims of domestic violence who are dating their abuser to apply for a civil domestic violence restraining or protective order. These states are: AK, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IA, ID, IL, IN, KS, LA, ME, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NC, ND, OK, PA, RI, TN, TX, VT, WA, WV, WI and WY. Not all of these states use the word "dating" in the law or define dating in the same way. But, all thirty-eight include protection for victims in a dating relationship.
- Twelve states do *not* allow a victim who is in a dating relationship to apply for protection under their civil domestic violence restraining or protective order laws. These states are: AL, AZ, GA, KY, MD, NY, OH, OR, SC, SD, UT and VA.
- One of these states, Oregon, allows a victim who is in a sexual relationship with the abuser to apply for a restraining or protective order.

Co-Parents

- All but four states, LA, NH, TN and VT, explicitly allow victims of domestic violence who have a child with their abuser to apply for a restraining or protective order. However, each of those four states include at lease some protection under the law for teens that are or were dating, living with or in an intimate relationship with their abuser.
- Illinois goes farther than other states, allowing victims of domestic violence to apply for a restraining or protective order against an abuser who is allegedly the parent of their child.

Cohabitants

- Only three states: IN, MT and NY, exclude people living with their abuser from protection under the civil domestic violence restraining or protective order laws.
- However, Indiana and Montana offer protection to victims who are dating their abuser.
- In New York, only victims who are married or used to be married to their abuser or have a child with their abuser can apply for a civil domestic violence order of protection.

Restrictions for Same-Sex Relationships

- There are five states that in some way restrict protection under the civil domestic violence laws to opposite-sex couples only. Three of these states, MT, NC and SC, specifically offer protection only to opposite-sex couples.
- Louisiana law specifies that to qualify for a domestic violence protective order as a cohabitant, the victim must be living with an abuser of the opposite sex.
- In Idaho, the text of the civil domestic violence law does not exclude same-sex couples; however, when the law was adopted, the Idaho legislature stated that the law was intended for opposite-sex couples.

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Restrictions on Protection for Minor Victims

- New Hampshire is the only state where the law specifically allows a minor of any age to go to court by themselves to apply for a protective order.
- In two states, MO and WI, domestic violence restraining orders are only available to adults.
- Eight states, CA, CT, MN, OK, OR, UT, WA and WY, allow minors to obtain restraining or protective orders without the involvement of a parent, guardian or other adult if they meet certain requirements. These requirements include being a certain age (e.g. over 16) or having a certain relationship with the abuser (e.g. having a child in common with the abuser). Four of these states, CT, OR, UT, and WY, do not specify how a minor victim can apply if they do not meet the age limit or the relationship requirements.
- Seven states, AK, AZ, DE, ID, IA, MS, TN, explicitly require that a minor must have a parent or legal guardian involved in the process of applying for a restraining order.
- Two states, NJ and RI, require victims be over 18 to qualify for a restraining order as a cohabitant. However, in both these states, minor victims may apply if they are dating or have a child with their abuser.
- In five states, IA, OR, UT, WA and WY, if you are related to your abuser, you must be at least 18 to qualify for a restraining order.
- Seventeen other states make no provision in the law for how minor victims of domestic violence apply for a restraining or protective order. These states are: CO, DC, FL, KY, ME, MA, NE, NV, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, RI, SD, VT, and VA.

Restrictions on Protection from Minor Abusers

- Eight states impose age restrictions on the person against whom a restraining order is obtained: AZ, CO, MI, MO, NV, NC, OK and WI.
- In MO, NV and WI a victim cannot get a protective order against anyone who is a minor.
- Five state laws allow restraining orders against some, but not all, minors. In North Carolina, a victim cannot get a protective order against someone under 16 years of age. In Oklahoma, the abuser must be 13; in Arizona the abuser must be 12; and, in Colorado and Michigan, the abuser must be at least 10.

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STATE-BY-STATE REPORT CARD
GRADE SUMMARY

Alabama	F
Alaska	C
Arizona	F
Arkansas	B
California	A
Colorado	D
Connecticut	D
Delaware	D
District of Columbia	C
Florida	D
Georgia	F
Hawaii	C
Idaho	D
Illinois	B
Indiana	B
Iowa	F
Kansas	D
Kentucky	F
Louisiana	B
Maine	C
Maryland	F
Massachusetts	D
Michigan	C
Minnesota	B
Mississippi	C
Missouri	F

Montana	D
Nebraska	D
Nevada	C
New Hampshire	A
New Jersey	C
New Mexico	D
New York	F
North Carolina	F
North Dakota	D
Ohio	F
Oklahoma	A
Oregon	D
Pennsylvania	B
Rhode Island	C
South Carolina	F
South Dakota	F
Tennessee	D
Texas	B
Utah	F
Vermont	C
Virginia	F
Washington	B
West Virginia	C
Wisconsin	F
Wyoming	C

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ALABAMA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, Alabama's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Alabama?

Type of Relationship[1]
In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You live with or used to live with
- You have a child with
- You are married to or used to be married to
- In your immediate family
- In your extended family (related to the 6th degree)

Type of Abuse[2]
A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Harassed you
- Abused a child
- Recklessly endangered you
- Stalked you
- Held you against your will

Age
If you are 19 years or older, you can obtain a protection order on your own without adult supervision. If you are younger than 19, an adult relative, guardian, a household member, or custodian must file for you.[3]

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If you qualify for a protection order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protection order. After a hearing, the judge may grant you a temporary protection order.[3] Within fourteen days of requesting the order, the judge will conduct a full hearing. At that hearing, the judge may grant you a permanent protection order, which lasts up to one year[4] and is renewable.[5] The protective order may also be extended to cover your family or other household members.[6]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- The abuser must stay away from your home, school or work; minor children or household members; or any specified place the abuser has no legitimate reason to frequent[7]
- The abuser must not harass, annoy, telephone, contact or communicate with you[8]
- Use of a joint residence, specifically excluding abuser from home[9]
- Child custody and visitation rights[10]
- Temporary child and spousal support[11]
- Attorneys fees and court costs[12]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[13]

You have the right to a safe and healthy relationship… free from violence and free from fear.

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[1] Ala. Code § 30-5-2(a)(4) (2007).
[2] *Id*. § 6320.
[3] *Id.* § 30-5-2(a)(2), (5).
[3] *Id.* § 30-5-7(b)(1).
[4] *Id.* § 30-5-6(a), 7(e)(1).
[5] *Id.* § 30-5-7(e)(2).
[6] *Id.* § 30-5-7(c)(1).
[7] *Id.* § 30-5-7(c)(3).
[8] *Id*. § 30-5-7(c)(1), (2).
[9] *Id*. § 30-5-7(c)(7), (d)(4).
[10] *Id.* § 30-5-7(c)(4), (d)(2).
[11] *Id*. § 30-5-7(d)(5).
[12] *Id*. § 30-5-7(d)(3).
[13] *Id.* § 30-5-7(c)(1).

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ALASKA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders difficult for teens to obtain, Alaska's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a C.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Alaska?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You have or used to have a sexual relationship with[2]
- You live with or used to live with[3]
- You have a child with[4]
- You are married to or used to be married to [5]
- In your immediate family[6]
- In your extended family (to the 4th degree)[7]

Type of Abuse[8]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Threatened to abuse you
- Harassed you
- Stalked you

Age
If you are 18 years or older, you can obtain a protective order on your own without adult supervision. If you are under 18, you will need a parent, guardian or other adult appointed by the court to file for you.[9]

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you qualify for a protective order, you can get an emergency protective order from the police at any time. These emergency orders last for seventy-two hours.[10] Whether or not you have an emergency order, the next step is to go to court to request a temporary protective order. The temporary order lasts for twenty days.[11] Then within ten days of granting the temporary order, a judge will conduct a full hearing. At the hearing, a judge may grant you a permanent protective order, which will last up to one year.[12]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Abuser must stay away from your home, school, workplace, places you frequent often, minor children and household members[13]
- Abuser must not contact, harass, annoy, threaten, stalk, or communicate with you[14]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[15]
- Temporary child and spousal support[16]
- Compensation for damages caused by the abuser like medical expenses, counseling, shelter, and damaged property[17]
- Use of the residence and personal property[18]
- Abuser must surrender any firearms[19]
- Counseling at abuser's expense[20]
- Attorney's fees and court costs[21]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[22]

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[1] Alaska Stat. § 18.66.990(5)(C), (D) (2006).
[2] *Id*.
[3] *Id*. § 18.66.990(5)(B).
[4] *Id*. § 18.66.990(5)(G).
[5] *Id*. § 18.66.990(5)(A).
[6] *Id*. § 18.66.990(5)(F), (H).
[7] *Id*. § 18.66.990(5)(E), (F).
[8] *Id*. § 18.66.990.
[9] *Id*. § 18.66.100(a).
[10] *Id*. §18.66.110(b).
[11] *Id*. § 18.66.110(a).
[12] *Id*. § 18.66.110(b)(2).
[13] *Id*. § 18.66.100(c)(4).
[14] *Id*. § 18.66.100(c)(1), (2).
[15] *Id*. § 18.66.100(c)(9).
[16] *Id*. § 18.66.100(c)(12).
[17] *Id*. § 18.66.100(c)(13).
[18] *Id*. § 18.66.100(c)(3), (10).
[19] *Id*. § 18.66.100(c)(6), (7).
[20] *Id*. § 18.66.100(c)(13, (15).
[21] *Id*. § 18.66.100(c)(14).
[22] *Id*. § 18.66.150(d).

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ARIZONA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, Arizona's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for an Order of Protection in Arizona?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for an order of protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You are living with or used to live with[1]
- You have a child with or are pregnant by[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- Who is your grandparent, parent, sibling, child or grandchild by blood, marriage or court order[4]

Type of Abuse[5]
A judge is allowed to give you an order of protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Endangered you
- Stalked, harassed or intimidated you
- Unlawfully held you against your will
- Damaged your property
- Used the telephone to terrify, intimidate, harass, or annoy you

Age
If you are 18 years or older, you can obtain an order of protection on your own without adult supervision. If you are under 18, you will need a parent, legal guardian, or person with legal custody to file for you.[6] Under Arizona law, you cannot get an order of protection *against* a minor 12 years or younger.[7]

How Do I Get an Order of Protection?

If you qualify for a protective order, you can get an emergency protective order from the police at any time. These emergency orders last until the end of the next day the court is open.[8] Whether or not you have an emergency order, the next step is to go to court to request an order of protection. You may have to have a hearing before the judge will make the order. Final orders of protection can last up to one year from the date you serve it to the abuser.[9] An order of protection can also protect others that you specify.[10]

What Can I Ask for in an Order of Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order of protection:

- Abuser must not contact you[11]
- Abuser must stay away from your school, work, home, or other designated places[12]
- Use of the residence[13]
- Information on counseling options[14]
- Abuser cannot use or have a firearm[15]
- Attorney's fees[16]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[17]

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[1] Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 13-3601(A)(1) (2007).
[2] *Id*. § 13-3601(A)(2), (3).
[3] *Id*. § 13-3601(A)(1).
[4] *Id*. § 13-3601(A)(4), (5).
[5] *Id*. § 13-3601(A).
[6] *Id*. § 13-3602(A).
[7] *Id.* § 13-3602(B).
[8] *Id.* § 13-3624.
[9] *Id*. § 13-3602(K).
[10] *Id*. § 13-3602(G)(4).
[11] *Id*. § 13-3602(G)(3).
[12] *Id*.
[13] *Id*. § 13-3602(G)(2), (3).
[14] *Id*. §§13-3601(I), 3602(D).
[15] *Id*. §§13-3601(C), (D), (E), (F); 3602(G)(4).
[16] *Id*. § 13-3602 (O).
[17] *Id*. § 13-3602(D), (I).

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ARKANSAS

B

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes orders of protection reasonably accessible to youth, Arkansas' grade for protecting young victims of domestic and dating violence is a B.

Do I Qualify for an Order of Protection in Arkansas?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for an order of protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- You have a child with[4]
- In your immediate family[5]
- In your extended family (to the 4th degree)[6]

Type of Abuse[7]
A judge is allowed to give you an order of protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you

Age
If you are 18 years or older, you can obtain an order of protection on your own without adult supervision. If you are under 18, you will need a family or household member or an employee/volunteer from a domestic violence program or shelter to file on your behalf.[8]

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you qualify for an order of protection, you can go to court to file for a temporary protective order. After a hearing, the judge may grant you a temporary protective order that will last for at least 30 days.[9] Within 30 days of requesting the order, a judge will conduct a full hearing. At that hearing, the judge may grant you a permanent order of protection, which lasts up to two years and is renewable.[10] This order of protection can also cover and protect other family and household members.[11]

What Can I Ask for in an Order of Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order of protection:

- Abuser must stay away from your work, school, or other places that you frequent[12]
- Abuser must not contact, threaten, injure, mistreat, molest, or harass you[13]
- Temporary child visitation rights upon the agreement that abuser will get counseling[14]
- Temporary child custody[15]
- Temporary child support and spousal support[16]
- Temporary use of a shared residence, specifically excluding abuser from home[17]
- Attorney's fees[18]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[19]

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[1] Ark. Code Ann. § 9-15-103(3), (4)(A) (2006).
[2] *Id*. § 9-15-103(3).
[3] *Id*.
[4] *Id*.
[5] *Id*.
[6] *Id*.
[7] *Id*. § 9-15-103.
[8] Ark. Code Ann. §§ 9-15-201(d); 203(b).
[9] Ark. Code Ann. § 9-15-206(c).
[10] *Id*. § 9-15-205(b).
[11] *Id*. § 9-15-205(a)(7)(A).
[12] *Id.* §9-15-205(a)(2).
[13] *Id.* §9-15-205(A)(6), (7)(B).
[14] *Id*. §§ 9-15-205(a)(3), 9-27-331(d)(1)(A), 9-27-341.
[15] *Id*. § 9-15-205(a)(3).
[16] *Id*. § 9-15-205(a)(4).
[17] *Id*. § 9-15-205(a)(1).
[18] *Id*. § 9-15-202(c)(2).
[19] *Id*. § 9-15-202(a),(c)(1).

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CALIFORNIA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes restraining orders very accessible to youth, California's grade for protecting young victims of domestic and dating violence is an A.

Do I Qualify for a Restraining Order in California?

Type of Relationship

In order to qualify for a restraining order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- In your immediate family[5]
- In your extended family (to the 2nd degree)[6]

Type of Abuse[7]

A judge is allowed to give you a restraining order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Harassed you, made threatening phone calls, or stalked you
- Destroyed your personal property
- Disturbed your peace

Age[8]

If you are 12 years old or older, you can obtain a restraining order on your own without a parent or guardian's permission. However, if you are under 18 and living with a parent or guardian, a copy of the restraining order must be sent to at least one parent or guardian, unless the judge decides it would not be in your best interests. If you are under 12, you will need a parent or guardian to file for you.

How Do I Get a Restraining Order?

If you qualify for a restraining order, you can get an emergency protective order from the police at any time. Emergency orders last for five to seven days.[9] Whether or not you have an emergency order, the next step is to go to court to file for a restraining order. The temporary order lasts until you go back to court for a hearing. After a full hearing, the judge can grant a permanent restraining order which lasts up to 5 years and is renewable.[10] A restraining order also can protect your family/household members.[11]

What Can I Ask for in a Restraining Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a restraining order:

- Abuser must stay away from you, your school, work or any other specified place[12]
- Abuser must not contact, abuse, or threaten you or destroy your personal property[13]
- Use of shared property or residence [14]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[15]
- Temporary child and spousal support[16]
- Order the abuser to go to counseling[17]
- Abuser cannot have or use a firearm[18]
- Require the abuser to pay for medical bills or other costs caused by the abuse[19]
- Attorneys fees[20]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[21]

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[1] Cal. Fam. Code §§ 6210, 6211(c) (2007).
[2] *Id.* § 6209.
[3] *Id.* § 6211(d).
[4] *Id.* § 6211(a).
[5] *Id.* § 6211(e).
[6] *Id.* § 6211(f).
[7] *Id*. § 6320.
[8] Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 372 (2007).
[9] *Id.* 6256.
[10] Cal. Fam. Code § 6345(a) (2007).
[11] *Id.* 6252(c).
[12] *Id.* § 6320, 6345(a).
[13] *Id*. § 6320.
[14] *Id*. §§ 6321, 6324.
[15] *Id.* § 6323.
[16] *Id*. § 6341.
[17] *Id*. § 6343(a).
[18] *Id*. § 6389.
[19] *Id*. § 6342
[20] *Id*. § 6344.
[21] *Id*. § 6222.

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COLORADO

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, Colorado's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Colorado?

Type of Relationship

In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are in an intimate relationship with or used to be in an intimate relationship with[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- Have a child with[4]
- In your immediate family[5]
- In your extended family[6]

Type of Abuse[7]

A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you.
- Threatened to act violently against you
- Acted or threatened to act violently against your minor child.
- Sexually abused you

Age

If you are 18 years or older, you can obtain a protection order on your own without an adult's permission.[8] For minors under 18, the law does not say how you can file for a protection order. This means that it is up to individual courts and judges to decide whether you can get one without your parent's permission. Check with local domestic violence organizations to see how your local courts handle minors who request protection orders. Also, you cannot get a protection order against someone who is 10 or younger.[9]

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If you qualify for a protection order, you can get an emergency protective order from the police any time the courts are closed.[10] Emergency orders last until the end of the next day the court is open.[11] Whether or not you have an emergency order, the next step is to go to court to file for a temporary protection order. The temporary order lasts up to fourteen days, until you go back to court for a hearing. After a full hearing, the judge can grant a permanent protection order that will remain in effect for as long as the judge deems necessary.[12]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Order the abuser to stay away from you[13]
- Order the abuser not to abuse, touch, harass threaten, intimidate or contact you and your children[14]
- Attorney fees[15]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[16]
- Temporary use of residence, specifically excluding abuser from home[17]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[18]

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[1] Colo. Rev. Stat. §§ 13-14-101(2), 18-6-800.3(2) (2006).
[2] *Id.* at § 13-14-101(2).
[3] *Id.* at § 18-6-800.3(2).
[4] *Id.*
[5] *Id*. at 13-14-101(2).
[6] *Id.* at § 18-6-800.3.
[7] *Id*. at § 13-14-101.
[8] *Id*. at § 13-14-101(1.5).
[9] *Id*. at § 13-14-102(1.5).
[10] *Id*. § 13-14-103(1)(f).
[11] *Id*.
[12] *Id*. § 13-14-102(7)-(9).
[13] *Id*. at § 13-14-101(2.4)(a).
[14] *Id*.
[15] *Id*. at § 13-14-102(21)(c).
[16] *Id*. at § 13-14-102(15)(e)(I), (II).
[17] *Id*. at § 13-14-102(15)(c).
[18] *Id*. at § 13-14-102(21)(a).

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CONNECTICUT

D

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence restraining order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, Connecticut's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for a Restraining Order in Connecticut?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a restraining order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You are living with or used to live with (as long as both of you are 16 years or older)[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- Who is your parent or your child[5]
- You are related to by blood or marriage (as long as both of you are 18 years or older)[6]

Type of Abuse[7]
A judge is allowed to give you a restraining order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Sexually abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you

Age
If you are 18 years old or older, or if you are 16 years or older and currently or formerly living with the abuser, you can obtain a restraining order on your own without a parent or guardian's permission. In all other circumstances, if you are under 18, the law does not say how you can file for a restraining order. This means that it is up to individual courts and judges to decide whether you can get one without your parent's permission. Check with local domestic violence organizations to see how your local courts handle minors who request protection orders.[8]

How Do I Get a Restraining Order?

If you qualify to apply for a restraining order, you can go to court to file for a temporary restraining order. At that time, the judge may give you a temporary order and schedule a full hearing for sometime within the next 14 days. After a full hearing, the judge can grant you a permanent restraining order, which lasts for 6 months and can be renewed.[9]

What Can I Ask for in a Restraining Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a restraining order:

- Abuser may not threaten, harass, injure, molest, assault, sexually assault, attack or intimidate you[10]
- Abuser must not put "any restraint on your person or liberty"[11]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[12]
- Temporary and/or exclusive use of residence[13]
- The restraining order will also protect your dependent children or others at the court discretion[14]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[15]

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[1] Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 46b-15(a), 38a(2)(F).
[2] Conn. Gen. Stat. § 46b-38a(2)(D).
[3] *Id*. § 46b-38a(2)(E).
[4] *Id*. § 46b-38a(2)(A).
[5] *Id*. § 46b-38a(2)(B).
[6] *Id*. § 46b-38a(2)(C).
[7] *Id*. § 46b-38a(1).
[8] *Id*. §§ 46b-15(a), 46b-38a(2).
[9] *Id*. § 46b-15(b).
[10] *Id*. §§ 46b-15(b), 46b-38c(2)(e).
[11] *Id*.
[12] *Id.*
[13] *Id*. § 46b-15(b).
[14] *Id*.
[15] *Id*. § 52-259a.

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DELAWARE

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, Delaware's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Delaware?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- You have a child with[4]
- Who you live with, is a resident of Delaware and is your parent, step-parent, child, step-child, sibling, in-law, or grandparent[5]
- Who is the custodian of a child[6]

Type of Abuse[7]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Unlawfully held you against your will
- Destroyed or damaged your property
- Abused a child
- Engaged in alarming behavior that causes you to fear for your safety

Age
If you are 18 years or older, you can obtain a protective order yourself without an adult's permission.[8] For minors under 18, child protection services or a parent or legal guardian must file for you.[9]

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you qualify to apply for a protective order, you can go to court to file for a temporary order. At that time, the judge may hold an emergency hearing and give you a temporary order. The judge will also schedule a full hearing for sometime within the next 10 days. [10] After a full hearing, the judge can grant you a permanent protective order, which lasts for one year and can be renewed.[11]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- The abuser must not commit domestic violence, contact or attempt to contact you[12]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[13]
- Child and spousal support[14]
- Money for costs resulting from the abuse[15]
- Temporary and exclusive use of any property, including a shared residence[16]
- Counseling for victim and family members[17]
- Attorney's fees[18]
- Abuser must surrender any firearm(s)[19]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free. [20]

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[1] Del. Code Ann. tit. 10, § 1041(2)(b) (2007)
[2] *Id.*
[3] *Id*.
[4] *Id*.
[5] *Id*. §901(9).
[6] *Id*.
[7] *Id*. §1041(1).
[8] *Id.* §901(2).
[9] *Id*. §§ 1041(3)(b), 1043(a).
[10] *Id*. § 1043
[11] *Id*. §§ 1045(b)-(e)
[12] *Id*. §§ 1045(a)(1)-(2)
[13] *Id*. § 1045(a)(5).
[14] *Id*. § 1045(a)(6).
[15] *Id*. § 1045(a)(7).
[16] *Id*. §§ 1045(a)(4).
[17] *Id*. § 1045(a)(7).
[18] *Id*.
[19] *Id*. § 1045(a)(8).
[20] *Id.* §1045(a)(7)

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protection orders difficult for teens to obtain, the District of Columbia's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a C.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Washington, D.C.?

Type of Relationship

In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are in a romantic relationship with (it does not have to be a sexual relationship)[1]
- You are sharing a residence with[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- You are related to by blood or legal custody[5]

Type of Abuse[6]

A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to abuse you
- Threatened to injure you
- Attempted or threatened to physically abuse you
- Stalked you

Age

If you are 18 years or older, you can obtain a protection order yourself without an adult's permission.[7] For minors under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a protection order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want protection orders.

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If you qualify to apply for a protection order, you can go to court to file for the order. A judge will decide whether there is enough threat of immediate danger to grant a temporary protection order. The judge will also schedule a time in the next 14 days for a full hearing. The temporary order lasts until your hearing.[8] After the hearing, the judge may grant you a permanent order which lasts up to 1 year and is renewable.[9]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- The abuser must stop abusive behaviors[10]
- Order the abuser to attend counseling[11]
- The abuser must stay away from you and your home[12]
- Child and spousal support[13]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[14]
- Require the abuser to pay you back for costs caused by the abuse, including court costs and attorney fees[15]
- Abuser must surrender any firearm(s)[16]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.

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[1] D.C. Code Ann. § 16-1001(5)(B) (2007).
[2] *Id.* § 16-1001(5)(A).
[3] *Id*.
[4] *Id*.
[5] *Id*.
[6] *Id*. § 16-1001(5).
[7] *Id.* §§ 46-101, 16-1004(d).
[8] *Id.* § 16-1004(d).
[9] *Id*. § 16-1005(d).
[10] *Id*. §§ 16-1005(c)(1), (3).
[11] *Id*. § 16-1005(c)(2).
[12] *Id*. §§ 16-1005(c)(3)-(4).
[13] Specified in court forms when filing for a protective order.
[14] *Id*. §§ 16-1005(c)(6)-(7).
[15] *Id*. § 16-1005(c)(8).
[16] Specified in court forms when filing for a protective order.

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FLORIDA

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Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, Florida's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Florida?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- In your immediate family[5]
- In your extended family[6]

Type of Abuse[7]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Stalked you
- Unlawfully held you against your will

Age
If you are 18 years or older, you can obtain a protection order yourself without an adult's permission. For minors under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. [8] It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a protection order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want protection orders.

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you qualify to apply for a protective order, you can go to court to file for a temporary order. After a hearing, the judge may grant you a temporary protective order which lasts for 15 days. The judge may also schedule another hearing.[10] After the full hearing, the judge may grant you a permanent order that lasts as long as the judge orders.[9]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- The abuser must stay away from your home, school, work, and other designated places[10]
- The abuser must also stay away from any family or household members identified by the court.[11]
- The abuser cannot contact or communicate with the you directly or indirectly.[12]
- Exclusive use of the residence[13]
- Temporary child custody and visitation orders[14]
- Temporary child and spousal support[15]
- Abuser must not use and must surrender all firearm(s)[16]
- Counseling at the abuser's expense[17]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[18]

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[1] Fla. Stat. Ann. § 784.046(1)(d) (2007).
[2] *Id.* § 741.28 (3).
[3] *Id.*
[4] *Id.*
[5] *Id.*
[6] *Id.*
[7] *Id*. § 784.046.
[8] *Id.* § 784.046(2)(b).
[10] *Id.* § 741.30(5)(c).
[9] Fla. Family Law R. P. § 12.610(c)(4)(B).
[10] Fla. Stat. Ann. § 741.31(4)(a)(2), (6).
[11] *Id.*
[12] *Id.* §741.31(4)(a)(3), (5).
[13] *Id.* § 741.30(6)(a)(2).
[14] *Id.* § 741.30(6)(a)(3)-(4).
[15] *Id.*
[16] *Id.* § 790.233.
[17] *Id.* § 741.30(6)(a)(5).
[18] *Id.* § 741.30(2)(a), (b).

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GEORGIA

F

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, Georgia's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Georgia?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are living with or used to live with[1]
- You have a child with[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- Parent-child[4]
- Related by blood or marriage[5]
- Your step-parent, step-child, foster parent or foster child[6]

Type of Abuse[7]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Stalked you
- Severely damaged your property
- Unlawfully held you against your will

Age
If you are 18 years old or older, you can obtain for a protective order yourself without an adult's permission. If you are younger than 18 years old, you may not file for an order yourself. You will need a person over 18 to file for you.[8]

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you qualify for a protective order, you can go to court to file for a temporary order. If a judge gives you a temporary protective order, he or she will schedule you for a full hearing within 10 days.[9] After a full hearing, the judge can grant you a permanent protective order that will last for 1 to 3 years.[10]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Abuser must restrain from acts of domestic violence and harassment[11]
- Temporary and/or exclusive use of property[12]
- Temporary child custody[13]
- Temporary visitation orders[14]
- Child and spousal support[15]
- Counseling for the abuser[16]
- Attorneys fees[17]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[18]

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[1] Ga. Code Ann. § 19-13-1 (2007).
[2] *Id.*
[3] *Id.*
[4] *Id.*
[5] *Id.*
[6] *Id.*
[7] *Id.*
[8] *Id.* § 39-1-1(a), §19-13-3(a).
[9] *Id.* §19-13-3(c).
[10] *Id*. § 19-13-4(c).
[11] *Id.* § 19-13-4(a)(9).
[12] *Id.* § 19-13-4(a)(8).
[13] *Id.* § 19-13-4(a)(4).
[14] *Id.*
[15] *Id.* § 19-13-4(a)(7).
[16] *Id.* § 19-13-4(a)(11).
[17] *Id.* § 19-13-4(a)(10).
[18] *Id.* § 15-6-77(e)(4).

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HAWAII

C

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders difficult for teens to obtain, Hawaii's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a C.

Do I Qualify for an Order of Protection in Hawaii?

Type of Relationship[1]
In order to qualify for an order of protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You are married or used to be married to
- You are dating or used to date
- You have a child with
- You are dating or used to date
- You are living with or used to live with
- In your immediate family
- You are related to by blood

Type of Abuse[2]
A judge is allowed to give you an order of protection when your abuser has:

- Inflicted any physical harm, bodily injury or assault upon you
- Threatened imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault
- Sexually abuse you
- Inflicted extreme psychological abuse
- Inflicted malicious property damage

Age
If you are 18 years or older, you can obtain an order of protection on your own without an adult's permission. If you are younger than 18 years old, any family or household member or a state agency must file on your behalf.[3]

How Do I Get an Order of Protection?[4]

If you want to obtain a restraining order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protective order. The length of this order is at the discretion of the judge, but not to exceed 90 days. Then the judge will schedule a full hearing for a permanent protective order. After a full hearing, the judge can grant you a permanent protective order that is renewable.

What Can I Ask for in an Order of Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order of protection:

- To restrain the abuser from contacting you[5]
- The abuser cannot threaten or physically abuse you or anyone residing in your home[6]
- The abuser must leave the residence for the length of the restraining order[7]
- Child custody[8]
- Visitation[9]
- Abuser must not use and must surrender all firearm(s)[10]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.

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[1] Haw. Rev. Stat. § 709-906(1) (2006).
[2] *Id.* § 586-1.
[3] *Id.* §§ 577-1; 586-3(b)(1), (2).
[4] *Id.* § 586-5(a), (b).
[5] *Id*. §§ 586-4 (a), 586-5.5.
[6] *Id*.
[7] *Id*.
[8] *Id.* §§ 586-5(a), (b); 586-5.5.
[9] *Id*. § 586.5(b), 586-5.5.
[10] *Id*. § 134-7.5.

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IDAHO

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, Idaho's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Idaho?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or you used to date[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are related by blood, marriage or adoption[4]
- You are married to or used to be married to[5]

Type of Abuse[6]
A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Sexually abused you
- Unlawfully held you against your will
- Threatened to do any of the above

Age
If you are 18 years older, you can obtain a protection order on your own without a parent or guardian's permission. If you are a minor, you will need a parent to file for you. [7]

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If you qualify for a protection order, you can go to court to file for a temporary order. The temporary order can last up to 14 days and may be reissued.[8] A full hearing will be held within 14 days of your application for a protection order or granting your temporary order.[9] After a full hearing, the judge may grant you a permanent protective order which lasts up to 1 year and is renewable for an additional year.[10]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Abuser must stay away 1,500 feet from your home, work, school, family/household members' residences or any area[11]
- Abuser must not commit acts of domestic violence and cannot harass, molest, annoy or disturb the peace[12]
- Abuser must not contact you directly or indirectly (includes using the telephone or interfering with victim's custody of children).[13]
- Temporary child custody[14]
- Counseling for the abuser.[15]
- Temporary and/or exclusive use of personal or joint property.[16]
  Abuser must not use and must surrender any firearm(s).[17]
- Attorneys fees and reimburse victim the costs to bring the action.[18]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[19]

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[1] Idaho Code § 39-6303(1), (2) (2006).
[2] *Id*. § 39-6303(6).
[3] *Id*. § 39-6303(3).
[4] *Id*. § 39-6303(3).
[5] *Id*.
[6] *Id*. § 39-6303.
[7] *Id*. § 39-6304(2).
[8] *Id*. §§ 39-6308(5).
[9] *Id.* §§ 39-6306(1); 39-6308(5).
[10] *Id*. § 39-6306(5).
[11] *Id*. § 39-6308(1)(f).
[12] *Id*. § 39-6306(1)(g).
[13] *Id.*
[14] *Id*. § 39-6306(1)(a).
[15] *Id*. § 39-6306(1)(d).
[16] *Id.* §§ 39-6306(1)(c); 39-6308(1)(b).
[17] *Id*. § 18-310.
[18] *Id*. § 39-6308 (1) (f).
[19] *Id*. § 39-6305.

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ILLINOIS

B

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders reasonably accessible to teens, Illinois's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a B.

Do I Qualify for an Order of Protection in Illinois?

Type of Relationship[1]
In order to qualify for an order of protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date
- You are living with or used to live with
- You have a child with
- You are married to or used to be married to
- You are related to by blood or marriage, including parents, children, step-children and people who share a blood relationship through a child

Type of Abuse[2]
A judge is allowed to give you an order of protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you or threatened or attempted to physically abuse you
- Harassed you
- Created a disturbance at school or work
- Repeatedly called you at work or home
- Stalked you
- Threatened to take or hide your minor child from you

Age
If you are 18 years or older, you can obtain an order of protection yourself without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, any adult may file for you.[3] Additionally, the law specifically states that a protective order shall not be denied because the person seeking the order is a minor.[4]

How Do I Get an Order of Protection?

If you qualify for an order of protection, you can go to court and file for an emergency order of protection. These orders can be granted on the same day your file and last from 14 to 21 days.[5] A hearing should then take place within 7 days. If it does not, you can get an interim order of protection, which can last up to 30 days.[6] After the full hearing, a judge can give you a permanent order of protection which lasts 2 years and is renewable.[7]

What Can I Ask for in an Order of Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order of protection:

- Abuser must stay a specific distance away from you and must stay away from your home, school, workplace and other places.[8]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser (includes temporary shelter and meals).[9]
- Child custody, visitation and support.[10]
- Counseling for the abuser[11]
- Use of personal or joint property.[12]
- Abuser may not possess any firearms.[13]
- Attorneys fees[14].

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free[15].

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[1] 750 Ill. Comp. Stat. 60/103(6) (2007).
[2] *Id*. 60/103(1), (7), (14).
[3] *Id*. 60/201(b).
[4] *Id*. 60/214(a).
[5] *Id*. 60/220(a)(1).
[6] *Id*. 60/220(a)(2).
[7] *Id*. 60/220(b), (e).
[8] *Id*. 60/14(3), 30/217-219.
[9] *Id*. 60/214(b)(13).
[10] *Id*. 60/214(b)(5)-(7), (12).
[11] *Id*. 60/214(4), 60-218(a).
[12] *Id*. 60/214(2).
[13] *Id*. 60/214(14.5).
[14] *Id*. 60/214(b)(13).
[15] *Id*. 60/220(b).

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INDIANA

B

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders reasonably accessible to teens, Indiana's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a B.

Do I Qualify for an Order for Protection in Indiana?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for an order for protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You are married to our used to be married to[1]
- You are dating or used to date (includes sexual relationships)[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are related to by blood, marriage or adoption (or other legal relationship)[4]

Type of Abuse[5]
A judge is allowed to give you an order for protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you, or threatened or attempted to physically abuse you
- Placed you in fear of physical harm
- Stalked you
- Killed an animal to threaten you
- Intimidated or harassed a family or household member
- Forced you to engage in sexual activity

Age
If you are 18 years or older, you can get an order for protection on your own without a parent or guardian's permission. If you are under 18, you will need a parent, guardian or another representative to file for you.[6]

How Do I Get an Order for Protection?

If you qualify for an order for protection, you can go to court to file for a temporary order. A judge can immediately issue an order for protection.[7] The court will schedule a full hearing within 30 days.[8] After a hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent order for protection which lasts for 2 years and is renewable.[9]

What Can I Ask for in an Order for Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order for protection:

- Abuser must stay away from your home, school, work, or any specified[10]
- Abuser cannot commit or threaten to commit acts of domestic violence against you.[11]
- Abuser must not contact or communicate with you, directly or indirectly[12]
- Use of home, car or other property[13]
- Visitation, child and spousal support[14]
- Counseling at abuser's expense.[15]
- Attorney's fees.[16]
- Money for expenses due to domestic violence.[17]
- Abuser cannot use and must surrender all firearm(s) or deadly weapons.[18]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free[19]

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[1] Ind. Code Ann. § 34-6-2-44.8(a)(5) (2007).
[2] *Id*. § 34-6-2-44.8(a)(2), (3).
[3] *Id*. § 34-6-2-44.8(a)(7).
[4] *Id*. § 34-6-2-44.8(a)(4)-(6).
[5] *Id*. §§ 31-9-2-42, 34-6-2-34.5.
[6] *Id*. § 34-26-5-2(a),(b).
[7] *Id*. § 34-26-5-9.
[8] *Id.* § 34-26-5-10(a).
[9] *Id*. §§ 34-26-5-8(f), 34-26-5-9(e).
[10] *Id*. § 34-26-5-9(b)(4).
[11] *Id*. § 34-26-5-9(b)(1).
[12] *Id*. § 34-26-5-9(b)(2).
[13] *Id*. § 34-26-5-9(b)(3), (5).
[14] *Id*. § 34-26-5-9(c)(2), (3)(C).
[15] *Id.* § 34-26-5-9(c)(3)(D)(ii).
[16] *Id*. § 34-26-5-9(c)(3)(A).
[17] *Id*. § 34-26-5-9(c)(3)(D).
[18] *Id*. § 34-26-5-9(c)(4).
[19] *Id*. § 34-26-5-16(1).

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IOWA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, Iowa's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Iowa?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or dated within the past year[1]
- You are living together or used to live together[2]
- You have a child together[3]
- You are married or used to be married[4]
- You are related by blood or marriage (only if you are 18 or older) and you are living together or lived together in the past year[5]

Type of Abuse[6]
A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Placed you in fear of immediate physical contact
- Pointed a firearm or other weapon at you

Age[7]
If you are 18 years or older, you can get a protection order yourself, without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, you will need a parent or guardian to file for you.

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If your situation is urgent, you can get an emergency protective order from the police at any time. These emergency orders last for 72 hours.[8] Whether or not you have an emergency order, you may go to court to file for a temporary protection order. The judge can give you a temporary order that will protect you until the full hearing, which must be scheduled 5 to 15 days after filing for the temporary order.[9] After a full hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent protective order which lasts 1 year and is renewable.[10]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Abuser must stay away from your home, school or work and cannot abuse you[11]
- Use of your home or provide alternate housing[12]
- Child custody and visitation[13]
- Child and spousal support [14]
- Counseling for victim and abuser[15]
- Attorneys fees and court costs[16]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free[17].

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[1] Iowa Code § 236.2(2)(e), (5) (2006).
[2] *Id*. § 236.2(4)(a), (d).
[3] *Id*. § 236.2(c).
[4] *Id*. § 236.2(2)(b).
[5] *Id*. § 236.2(2)(a), (d), (4)(a).
[6] *Id*. § 708.1.
[7] *Id*. § 236.3.
[8] *Id*. § 236.6(2).
[9] *Id*. § 236.4(1).
[10] *Id*. § 236.5 (2)(e).
[11] *Id*. § 236.5(2)(a), (c).
[12] *Id*. § 236.5(2)(b).
[13] *Id*. § 236.5(2)(d).
[14] *Id*. § 236.5(2)(e).
[15] *Id*. § 236.5(1).
[16] *Id*. § 236.5(3).
[17] *Id*. § 236.3.

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KANSAS

D

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, Kansas' grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Kansas?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You have a child with[3]

Type of Abuse[4]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Recklessly or intentionally caused bodily injury
- Engaged in sexual intercourse with a minor 16 or younger

Age
If you are 18 years and older, you may obtain a protective order on your own. If you are under 18 years old, you will need a parent or an adult who lives with you to file for you.[5]

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you qualify for a protective order and your situation is urgent, you can get an emergency protective order from the police at any time. These emergency orders last until 5:00 p.m. on the first day the court is open after the order is issued.[6] Whether or not you have an emergency order, you may go to court to file for a temporary protective order. The judge can give you a temporary protective order and will schedule a full hearing within 20 days of filing. After a full hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent protective order which lasts 1 year and is renewable for an additional year.[7]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Abuser must not abuse, molest or interfere with your privacy or the privacy of your children[8]
- Temporary and exclusive use of joint property[9]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[10]
- Child and spousal support for less than 1 year[11]
- Counseling for abuser[12]
- Attorney's fees[13]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[14]

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[1] Kan. Stat. Ann. § 60-3102(b), (c) (2006).
[2] *Id*. § 60-3102(b).
[3] *Id*.
[4] *Id*. § 60-3102(a).
[5] *Id.* §§ 39-1430(a),60-3104(b).
[6] *Id*. § 60-3105(b).
[7] *Id*. § 61-3107(e).
[8] *Id*. § 60-3107(a)(1)
[9] *Id*. § 60-3107(a)(2),(d).
[10] *Id*. § 60-3107(a)(4).
[11] *Id*. § 60-3107(a)(6).
[12] *Id*. § 60-3107(a)(9).
[13] *Id*. § 60-3107(a)(7).
[14] *Id*. § 60-3104(d)

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KENTUCKY

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, Kentucky's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Kentucky?

Type of Relationship

In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are married to or used to be married to[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- In your immediate family[4]
- You are related by blood or marriage (to the 2nd degree)[5]

Type of Abuse[6]

A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you

Age

If you are 18 or older, you can apply for a protective order yourself, without an adult's permission. If you are under 18 and want a protective order against someone in your family, you will need an adult family member to file for you.[7] But, if you are under 18 and want an order against someone you have had a relationship with, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get an order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want protective orders.

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you qualify for a protective order, you may go to court to file for a temporary protective order. The judge can give you a temporary protective order and will schedule a full hearing within 14 days.[8] The temporary order will protect you until the hearing. After the hearing, the judge can grant you a permanent protective order which lasts up to 3 years and is renewable for an additional period of up to 3 years.[9]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Abuser must not contact, harass, batter, annoy, threaten, or otherwise communicate with you[10]
- Abuser must not commit any acts of domestic violence against you[11]
- Require abuser to vacate shared premises[12]
- Abuser must not dispose of or damage any of your property[13]
- Temporary child custody[14]
- Temporary Child and spousal support[15]
- Counseling for both parties[16]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[17]

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[1] Ky. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 403.720(2) (2007).
[2] *Id*. § 403.720(3).
[3] *Id*.
[4] *Id*. § 403.720(2).
[5] *Id*.
[6] *Id*. § 403.720.
[7] *Id*. § 403.725(3).
[8] *Id*. § 403.740(4).
[9] *Id*. § 403.750(2).
[10] *Id*. § 403.750(1)(a),(b).
[11] *Id*.
[12] *Id*. §403.740(1)(d).
[13] *Id*. §403.740(1)(c).
[14] *Id*. §403.740(1)(e).
[15] *Id*. §403.740(1)(f), (4).
[16] *Id*. §§ 403.725 (5), 403.750 (1)(g).
[17] *Id*. § 403.730(3).

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LOUISIANA

B

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders reasonably accessible to teens, Louisiana's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a B.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Louisiana?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You are living with or used to live with (you and the abuser must be a man and a woman)[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- Who is your parent, child, stepparent, stepchild, foster parent, foster child, grandparents or grandchild[4]

Type of Abuse[5]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to abuse you
- Sexually abused you

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can obtain a protective order on your own, without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, you will need a parent, adult household member or district attorney to file for you.[6]

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you qualify for a protective order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protective order. A judge can grant you the temporary order the same day and will schedule a full hearing within 15 days of granting the order.[7] After the hearing, the judge can grant you a permanent protective order which lasts 18 months and is renewable at the discretion of the court.[8]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Abuser must stay away from your home, school, work, and other places you often go[9]
- Abuser must not harass or abuse you or your children[10]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser[11]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[12]
- Temporary child and spousal support[13]
- Temporary and exclusive use of joint property[14]
- Counseling for both victim and abuser at abuser's expense[15]
- Attorney's fees[16]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free[17]

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[1] La. Rev. Stat. § 46:2151(B) (2006).
[2] *Id*. § 46:2132(4).
[3] *Id*.
[4] *Id*.
[5] *Id*. § 46:2132.
[6] *Id*. §§ 46:2132(1), 46:2133(C).
[7] *Id.* § 46:2135(B), (D).
[8] *Id*. § 46:2136(F).
[9] *Id*. § 46:2135(A)(1).
[10] *Id*.
[11] *Id*. § 46:2136.1.
[12] *Id*. § 46:2135(A)(3), (5).
[13] *Id*. § 46:2135(A)(2).
[14] *Id*. § 46:213g(A)(2).
[15] *Id*. § 46:2136(A)(4).
[16] *Id*. § 46:2136.1.
[17] *Id*. § 46:2136.1.

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MAINE

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders difficult for teens to obtain, Maine's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a C.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Maine?

Type of Relationship[1]
In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are living with or used to live with
- You are married to or used to be married to
- You have a child together
- You are having sex with or had sex with
- You are related to by blood or marriage and who is an adult in your household.

Type of Abuse[2]
A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Unlawfully held you against your will
- Stalked you

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can get a protection order on your own.[3] If you are under 18 and want a protection order against someone in your family, you will need a person responsible for you to file the papers.[4] In all other cases, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get an order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want protection orders.

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If you qualify for a protection order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protection order. If granted, the order lasts until your hearing, which must be scheduled within 21 days of filing.[5] After a full hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent protection order which lasts up to 2 years and is renewable.[6]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Abuser must stay away from you, your home, school, work and other places you go[7]
- Abuser must not contact, harass, batter, annoy, threaten, or communicate with you[8]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[9]
- Temporary child and spousal support[10]
- Use of the home or provide alternate housing[11]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser[12]
- Abuser not to own or possess any firearm[13]
- Counseling for abuser[14]
- Attorney's fees and court costs[15]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free[16]

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[1] Me. Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 19-A, § 4002(4) (2006).
[2] *Id*. § 4002.
[3] *Id*. § 4002(2).
[4] *Id*. § 4005(1).
[5] *Id.* § 4006(1), (2).
[6] *Id*. § 4007(2).
[7] *Id*. § 4007(1)(C), (D).
[8] *Id*. § 4007(1)(A).
[9] *Id*. § 4007(1)(G).
[10] *Id*. § 4007(1)(I), (J).
[11] *Id*. § 4007(1)(E).
[12] *Id*. § 4007(1)(K).
[13] *Id*. § 4007(1)(A-1).
[14] *Id*. § 4007(1)(H).
[15] *Id*. § 4007(1)(L).
[16] *Id*. § 4005(4).

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MARYLAND

F

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, Maryland's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Maryland?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You have lived with and have had a sexual relationship with for at least 90 days within the last year[1]
- You have a child with[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- You are related to by blood, marriage or adoption[4]
- Who is your parent, child, stepparent, or stepchild and who you lived with for at least 90 days within the last year[5]

Type of Abuse[6]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened physical abuse
- Sexually abused you
- Held you against your will
- Stalked you

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can file for a protective order on your own. If you are under 18, an adult relative, an adult who lives with you, the Maryland state attorney, or the department of social services can file for you.[7]

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If your situation is urgent, you can get an interim protective order whenever the court is closed. These emergency orders last for 2 business days or until the date of the temporary order hearing.[8] Whether or not you have an interim order, you may file for a temporary protective order. The temporary order will protect you until the full hearing, which will be held within 7 days of filing.[9] After the hearing, the judge can grant you a permanent protective order which lasts 1 year and is renewable for up to another 6 months.[10]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- The abuser must stay away from your work, school, home, child care and other family members' homes[11]
- Abuser cannot threaten, harass, abuse, contact or attempt to contact you.[12]
- Use of the property[13]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[14]
- Temporary child and spousal support[15]
- Counseling for all parties[16]
- Attorneys fees and court costs[17]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free[18].

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[1] Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law § § 4-501(d) (2007).
[2] *Id*. § 4-501(L)(6).
[3] *Id*. § 4-501(L)(1).
[4] *Id*. § 4-501(L)(3).
[5] *Id*. § 4-501(L)(4).
[6] *Id*. § 4-501(b)(1)-(3).
[7] *Id*. § 4-501(m)(2)(ii).
[8] *Id*. § 4-504.1(g).
[9] *Id*. § 4-505(c)(1).
[10] *Id*. §§ 4-506(b)(2)(iii), 4-507(a)(2).
[11] *Id.* § 4-506(d)(5)-(6).
[12] *Id.* § 4-506(d)(1)-(2).
[13] *Id*. § 4-506(d)(4),(e).
[14] *Id.* § 4-506(d)(7), (8).
[15] *Id*. § 4-506(d)(9).
[16] *Id*. § 4-506(d)(11).
[17] *Id*. § 4-506(d)(13).
[18] *Id*. § 4-504(c).

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MASSACHUSETTS

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, Massachusetts' grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for a Restraining Order in Massachusetts?

Type of Relationship[1]
In order to qualify for a restraining order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date
- You are married to or used to be married to
- You are living with or used to live with
- You have a child with
- You are related to by blood or marriage

Type of Abuse[2]
A judge is allowed to give you a restraining order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Placed you in fear of imminent harm
- Sexually abused you

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can obtain a restraining order yourself without an adult's permission. For minors under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a restraining order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want restraining orders.

How Do I Get a Restraining Order?

If your situation is urgent, you can get an emergency restraining order from the police at any time. These emergency orders last for 1 business day.[3] Whether or not you have an emergency order, you may go to court to file for a temporary restraining order. The judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 10 business days.[4] After the hearing, the judge can grant you a permanent restraining order which lasts for 1 year and is renewable.[5]

What Can I Ask for in a Restraining Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a restraining order:

- Abuser must stay away from you, your home, and work[6]
- Abuser must not contact, harass, batter, annoy, threaten, or communicate with you[7]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser[8]
- Temporary child and spousal support[9]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[10]
- Counseling as a condition of visitation[11]
- Temporary exclusive use of the residence for less than 1 year[12]
- Abuser must not own or possess any guns[13]
- Attorneys fees[14]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free[15].

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[1] Mass. Ann. Laws Ch. 209A, §1 (2007).
[2] *Id*.
[3] *Id*. 209A, §5.
[4] *Id.* 209A, §4.
[5] *Id*. 209A, §3.
[6] *Id*. 209A, §3(c).
[7] *Id*. 209A, §3(a),(b).
[8] *Id*. 209A, §3(f).
[9] *Id*. 209A, §3(e).
[10] *Id*. 209A, §3(a)-(i), (d).
[11] *Id*. 209A, §3(c), (i).
[12] *Id.* 209A, §3(c).
[13] *Id*. 209A, §3B.
[14] *Id*. 209A, §3(f).
[15] *Id*. 209A, §3.

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MICHIGAN

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders difficult for teens to obtain, Michigan's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a C.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Michigan?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- You have a child with[4]

Type of Abuse
A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you[5]
- Threatened to physically abuse you[6]
- Attempted to physically abuse you[7]
- Sexually abused you[8]
- Harassed you[9]

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can get a protection order on your own without an adult's permission.[10] If you are under 18, you must have an adult (acting as your "next friend") file for you.[11]

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If you qualify for a protection order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protection order. The judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a time for you to come back to court for a full hearing. After the hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent protection order that is renewable.[12]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Abuser must stay away from you and your home, school, work, other places you often go and any place you are currently in[13]
- Abuser must not contact, harass batter, annoy, threaten, or otherwise communicate with you[14]
- Temporary and/or exclusive use of property[15]
- Abuser must stay away[16]
- Child custody and visitation[17]
- Abuser must not use and must surrender all firearm(s)[18]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[19]

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[1] Mich. Comp. Laws. Serv. § 600.2950(30(a)(2007).
[2] *Id.* § 600.2950(1).
[3] *Id.*
[4] *Id.*
[5] *Id*. §§ 400.1501(d)(i), 600.2950.
[6] *Id.* §§ 400.1501(d)(ii), 600.2950.
[7] *Id*.
[8] *Id*. §§ 400.1501(d)(iii), 600.2950.
[9] *Id*. §§ 400.1501 (i), (iv); 600.2950
[10] MCR § 3.702(6).
[11] *Id.* § 3.703(F)(2).
[12] *Id.* § 3.707(B)(1).
[13] Mich. Comp. Laws. Serv. § 600.2950(1)(a).
[14] *Id*. § 600.2950(1).
[15] *Id*. § 600.2950(1)(a).
[16] *Id*. § 600.2950(1)(g).
[17] *Id.* §600.2950(1)(d).
[18] *Id*. § 600.2950(2).
[19] *Id*. § 600.2950b.

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MINNESOTA

B

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders reasonably accessible to teens, Minnesota's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a B.

Do I Qualify for an Order for Protection in Minnesota?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for an order for protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating (including sexual relationships)[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- You have a child with (or if you are pregnant with that person's child)[4]
- Who is your parent or your child[5]
- You are related by blood or marriage[6]

Type of Abuse[7]
A judge is allowed to give you an order for protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Threatened you
- Attempted to abuse you
- Sexually abused you

Age[8]
If you are 16 years old or older, you can obtain an order for protection against someone you are married to or have a child with by yourself, without an adult's permission. In all other circumstances if you are under 18, you will need a family member or household member to file for you, or if the judge finds that it is in your best interest, a reputable adult 25 or older may file for you.

How Do I Get an Order for Protection?

If you qualify, you can go to court to file for a temporary order for protection. A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 14 days of filing for the temporary order.[9] After the hearing, the judge can give you a permanent order for protection which lasts for 1 year and is renewable.[10]

What Can I Ask for in an Order for Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order for protection:

- Abuser must stay away from your work or where you are located[11]
- Abuser must not commit acts of domestic abuse[12]
- Temporary and exclusive use of property[13]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[14]
- Temporary child and spousal support[15]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser[16]
- Counseling for abuser or at your request if married or have children with your abuser[17]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free[18].

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[1] Minn. Stat. § 518B.01(2)(b)(7) (2006).
[2] *Id*. § 518B.01 (2)(b)(4).
[3] *Id*. § 518B.01 (2)(b)(1).
[4] *Id*. § 518B.01 (2)(b)(5)-(6).
[5] *Id*. § 518B.01 (2)(b)(2).
[6] *Id*. § 518B.01 (2)(b)(3).
[7] *Id*. § 518B.01 (2).
[8] *Id*. § 518B.01 (4)(a).
[9] *Id*. § 518B.01 (5)(a),(c),(d).
[10] *Id*. § 518B.01 (6)(12)(b).
[11] *Id*. § 518B.01 (6)(a)(9).
[12] *Id*. § 518B.01 (6)(a)(1).
[13] *Id*. § 518B.01 (6)(a)(2).
[14] *Id.* § 518B.01 (6)(a)(4).
[15] *Id.* § 518B.01 (6)(a)(5).
[16] *Id.* § 518B.01 (4)(h), (6)(a)(10).
[17] *Id.* §§ 518B.01 (6)(a)(6), (7).
[18] *Id*. § 518B.01 (3)(a).

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MISSISSIPPI

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders difficult for teens to obtain, Mississippi's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a C.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Mississippi?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- Who is your parent or your child[5]
- You are related to by blood or marriage and living with or used to live with[6]

Type of Abuse[7]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you if you are a minor
- Stalked or cyberstalked you

Age
If you are 18 years or older or legally married, you can obtain a protective order yourself, without an adult's permission.[8] If you are under 18, you will need a parent, adult household member or "next friend" to file for you.[9]

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you qualify, you can go to court to file for a temporary protective order. The judge can give you the order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 10 days of filing for protection.[10] After the hearing, the judge can give you a permanent protective order which lasts 3 years.[11]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Abuser must stay away from your residence or work[12]
- Cannot abuse you or contact you through the phone or electronic methods[13]
- Temporary and/or exclusive use of the property or must provide alternate housing[14]
- Temporary child custody[15]
- Temporary child and spousal support[16]
- Counseling for both parties[17]
- Attorneys fees[18]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser (including medical expenses, lost earnings, moving expenses)[19]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[20]

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[1] Miss. Code Ann. §93-21-3(a),(d).
[2] *Id.* §93-21-3(a), (e).
[3] *Id.* §93-21-3(e).
[4] *Id*.
[5] *Id.*
[6] *Id.* §93-21-3(a), (e).
[7] *Id.* §93-21-3(a)(i)-(vi).
[8] *Id.* §93-21-3(b).
[9] *Id.* §93-21-7(1).
[10] *Id.* §93-21-11(1)-(3).
[11] *Id.* §93-21-17(2).
[12] *Id.* §§93-21-15(1)(b), (c); 93-21-13(2)(b)(c).
[13] *Id.* §§93-21-15(1)(a),(h); 93-21-13(1)(a)-(c).
[14] *Id.* §§93-21-15(1)(g); 93-21-13(1)(d).
[15] *Id.* §93-21-15(1)(d).
[16] *Id.* §§93-21-15(1)(c), (e).
[17] *Id.* §93-21-15(1)(f).
[18] *Id.* §§93-21-15(1)(f); 93-21-7(2).
[19] *Id.*
[20] *Id.* §93-21-7(2).

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MISSOURI

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, Missouri's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for an Order of Protection in Missouri?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for an order of protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date (as long as both of you are over 18)[1]
- You are living with or used to live with (as long as both of you are over 18)[2]
- You have a child with (as long as both of you are over 18)[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- You are related to by blood or marriage (as long as both of you are over 18)[5]

Type of Abuse[6]
A judge is allowed to give you an order of protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Harassed you
- Emotionally abused you
- Unlawfully held you against your will
- Stalked you

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can obtain an order of protection yourself, without an adult's involvement.[7] If you are under 18 years old, you will not qualify for an order of protection. The law specifically states it applies only to adults.[8]

How Do I Get an Order of Protection?

If you qualify, you can go to court to apply for a temporary protective order.[9] The judge can give you a temporary order immediately and will schedule a full hearing within 15 days of requesting protection.[10] After the hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent order of protection which lasts for 180 days to 1 year and is renewable.[11]

What Can I Ask for in an Order of Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order of protection:

- Abuser must not communicate, abuse, or stalk you[12]
- Abuser may not enter your home[13]
- Use or possession of the home, car and other essential property[14]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser[15]
- Child and Spousal support[16]
- Child custody and visitation[17]
- Attorneys fees[18]
- Counseling[19]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[20]

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[1] Mo. Rev. Stat. §455.010(5) (2006).
[2] *Id.*
[3] *Id.*
[4] *Id.*
[5] *Id.* §455.010(5).
[6] *Id.* §§455.501(1); 455.505.
[7] *Id.* §455.010(2).
[8] *Id.* §455.010(5).
[9] *Id.* §455.035(1).
[10] *Id.* §455.040(1).
[11] *Id.*
[12] *Id.* §455.050(1.) (3).
[13] *Id.* §455.050(1.)(2).
[14] *Id.* §§455.045(2), 455.050(3)(7).
[15] *Id.* §455.050(3.)(12), (4.).
[16] *Id.* § 455.050(3.)(3),(4).
[17] *Id.* §455.050(3)(1), (2).
[18] *Id.* §455.075.
[19] *Id*. §455.050(3.)(9.
[20] *Id.* §455.027.

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MONTANA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, Montana's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for an Order of Protection in Montana?

Type of Relationship[1]
In order to qualify for an order of protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or involved in an intimate relationship with or used to be (as long as you and the abuser are a man and a woman)
- You have a child with
- You are married to or used to be married to
- In your family, including your parents, child siblings, and relationships created by adoption and marriage

Type of Abuse[2]
A judge is allowed to give you an order of protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Recklessly endangered you
- Stalked you
- Unlawfully held you against your will

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can obtain an order of protection yourself, without an adult's permission.[3] If you are under 18, you will need a parent, guardian ad litem, or other representative to file for you.[4]

How Do I Get an Order of Protection?

If you qualify, you can go to court to file for a temporary order of protection that lasts for 20 days.[5] The judge will then schedule a full hearing. After the hearing, the judge can grant you a permanent order of protection. The length of the permanent order is determined by the judge.[6]

What Can I Ask for in an Order of Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order of protection:

- Abuser must stay 1,500 feet away from your home, school, work, and other places you often go to[7]
- Abuser must not contact, harass, batter, annoy, threaten, or otherwise communicate with you or family members[8]
- Abuser must not use and must surrender any firearm(s) used against the victim[9]
- Counseling for abuser[10]
- Possession or use of the property, car or other essential personal items[11]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[12]

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[1] Mont. Code Ann. §45-5-206(2)(a),(b) (2005).
[2] *Id.* §40-15-102(1).
[3] *Id.* §41-1-101(1).
[4] *Id.* §40-15-102(3).
[5] *Id.* §40-15-201(4).
[6] *Id.* §40-15-204(1).
[7] *Id.* §§40-15-201(2)(d), 40-15-204(3).
[8] *Id.* §§40-15-201(2)(a),(b); 40-15-204(3).
[9] *Id.* §§40-15-201(2)(f); 40-15-204(3).
[10] *Id.* §§40-15-201(2)(i); 40-15-204(3).
[11] *Id.* §§40-15-201 (2)(e), (h); 40-15-204(3).
[12] *Id*. §40-15-204(8).

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NEBRASKA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, Nebraska's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Nebraska?

Type of Relationship[1]
In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date
- You are living with or used to live with
- You have a child with
- You are married to or used to be married to
- You are related to by blood or marriage

Type of Abuse[2]
A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can obtain a protection order yourself without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a protection order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want protection orders.

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If you qualify for a protection order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protection order. The judge can give the order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 30 days.[3] After the hearing, the judge can grant you a permanent protection order which lasts one year.[4]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Abuser must stay away from you[5]
- Abuser must not contact, telephone, attack or threaten you[6]
- Temporary or exclusive use of residence[7]
- Child custody (not to exceed 90 days)[8]
- Any relief necessary to provide for the safety and welfare of victim and any family or household member[9]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[10]

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[1] Neb. Rev. Stat. Ann. §42-903(3) (2006).
[2] *Id.* §42-903(1).
[3] *Id.* §42-925.
[4] *Id.* §42-924(3).
[5] *Id.* §42-924(1)(e).
[6] *Id.* §42-924(1)(a),(b), (c).
[7] *Id.* §42-924(1)(d).
[8] *Id.* §42-924(1)(f).
[9] *Id.* §42-924(1)(g).
[10] *Id.* §42-924.01.

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NEVADA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders difficult for teens to obtain, Nevada's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a C.

Do I Qualify for an Order for Protection in Nevada?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for an order for protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You are living with or used to live with [2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- You are related to by blood or marriage[5]

Type of Abuse[6]
A judge is allowed to give you an order for protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Harassed you
- Stalked you
- Unlawfully held you against your will
- Criminally damaged your property

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can obtain an order for protection yourself without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get an order for protection without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want orders for protection.

How Do I Get an Order for Protection?

If you want an order for protection, you can go to court to file for a temporary order. A judge can give you the temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 45 days of your request for protection.[7] After the hearing, a judge can give you a permanent order for protection which lasts 1 year.[8]

What Can I Ask for in an Order for Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order for protection:

- Your abuser must stay away from your home, school, work, day care or other places you frequent[9]
- Abuser must not harass, threaten, or communicate with you or your minor child directly or indirectly[10]
- Temporary visitation[11]
- Child and spousal support (including rent or mortgage payments)[12]
- Abuser must surrender any firearms[13]
- Attorneys fees and court costs[14]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[15]

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[1] Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. §33.018(1), (2) (2007).
[2] *Id.* §33.018(1).
[3] *Id.* §33.018(1).
[4] *Id.* §33.018(1).
[5] *Id.* §33.018(1).
[6] *Id.* §33.018.
[7] *Id.* §33.420(3).
[8] *Id*.
[9] *Id.* §§33.030(1)(c), (4); 33.400(3)(a).
[10] *Id.* §33.030(1)(a), (1)(e).
[11] *Id.* §33.030(2).
[12] *Id.*
[13] *Id.* §33.030(2)(1)(A)-(B). *See* 2007 Nev. ALS 318,9)
[14] *Id.* §33.030(2)(b)(4).
[15] *Id.* §33.050(1).

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NEW HAMPSHIRE

A

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes restraining orders very accessible to teens, New Hampshire's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is an A.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in New Hampshire?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are or used to be involved in an intimate or sexual relationship with[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- You are related to by blood or marriage[4]

Type of Abuse[5]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you or attempted or threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Harassed you
- Unlawfully held you against your will
- Destroyed your property

Age
No matter how old you are, even if you are under 18, you can get a protective order by yourself, without an adult or your parent's permission.[6]

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If your situation is urgent, you can get an emergency protective order from the police at any time. An emergency order lasts until the end of the next business day.[7] Whether or not you have an emergency order, you can go to court to get a temporary protective order. After a full hearing, which must be scheduled within 30 days of asking for protection, a judge can give you a permanent protective order which lasts 1 year and can be extended for an additional 1 to 5 years.[8]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Abuser cannot enter your home, work, school or any other frequented places[9]
- Abuser must not harass, threaten, or abuse you or your family and household members[10]
- The abuser cannot communication with you, directly or indirectly[11]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[12]
- Child and spousal support[13]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser[14]
- Temporary and/or exclusive use of the property[15]
- Counseling for abuser[16]
- Attorneys fees[17]
- The abuser is not allowed to possess or purchase a firearm.[18]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[19]

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[1] N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. §173-B:1(XV) (2007).
[2] *Id.* §173-B:1(X)(a).
[3] *Id.*
[4] *Id.* §173B:1(X)(b)
[5] *Id.* §173-B:1.
[6] *Id.* §173-B:3(II)(a), (b).
[7] *Id.* §173-B:4(I).
[8] *Id.* §§173-B:3(VII), B:4, B:5(VI).
[9] *Id.* §173-B:5(I)(a)(2),(3).
[10] *Id.* §173-B:5(I)(a), (IV).
[11] *Id.*
[12] *Id.* §173-B:5(I)(b)(1), (6).
[13] *Id.* §173-B:5(I)(b)(8).
[14] *Id.* §173-B:5(I)(b)(9).
[15] *Id.* §173-B:5(I)(b)(1).
[16] *Id.* §173-B:5(I)(b)(8).
[17] *Id.* §173-B:5(I)(b)(10).
[18] *Id.* §173-B:5(II).
[19] *Id.* §173-B:3(III).

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NEW JERSEY

C

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders difficult for teens to obtain, New Jersey's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a C.

Do I Qualify for a Restraining Order in New Jersey?

Type of Relationship[1]
In order to qualify for a restraining order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date
- You live with or used to live with (as long as both of you are 18 or older)
- You are married to or used to be married to
- You have a child with (including if you are pregnant with the abuser's child)

Type of Abuse[2]
A judge is allowed to give you a restraining order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Harassed you, made threatening phone calls, or stalked you
- Destroyed your personal property
- Disturbed your peace

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can obtain a restraining order on your own without an adult's permission.[3] If you are under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a restraining order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want restraining orders.

How Do I Get a Restraining Order?

If you want a restraining order, you can go to court to file for a temporary restraining order. A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within ten days of your request for protection.[4] After the hearing, the judge may grant you a permanent restraining order.

What Can I Ask for in a Restraining Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a restraining order:

- Abuser must stay away from your residence, school, workplace, and other specific places[5]
- Abuser must not harass, stalk, threaten, or contact you, your family or your co-workers[6]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[7,8]
- Child and spousal support[9]
- Use of the home or provide other housing[10]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser[11]
- Counseling for abuser[12]
- Attorneys fees[13]
- You may get temporary possession and use of the car and other essential items[14]
- Abuser must not use and must surrender any firearm(s)[15]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.

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[1] NJ Stat. § 2C:25-19(d) (2007).
[2] *Id.* § 2C:25-19.
[3] *Id.* § 2C:25-19(e).
[4] *Id.* § 2C:25-29(a).
[5] *Id.* §2C:25-29(b)(6).
[6] *Id*.
[7] *Id.* § 2C:25-29(b)(11).
[8] *Id.* § 2C:25-29(b)(3).
[9] *Id.* § 2C:25-29(b)(10).
[10] *Id.* § 2C:25-29(b)(2).
[11] *Id.* § 2C:25-29(b)(4).
[12] *Id.* § 2C:25-29(b)(5).
[13] *Id.* § 2C:25-29(b)(4).
[14] *Id.* § 2C:25-29(b)(9).
[15] *Id.* § 2C:25-29(b).

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NEW MEXICO

D

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, New Mexico's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for an Order of Protection in New Mexico?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for an order of protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You are or used to be involved in a personal relationship with[1]
- You live with or used to live with[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- Who is your parent or your child[5]
- You are related to by blood or marriage (including stepparent or in-laws)[6]

Type of Abuse[7]
A judge is allowed to give you an order of protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Harassed you, including telephone harassment
- Stalked you
- Caused you emotional distress
- Criminally damaged your property
- Harmed or threatened to harm your children

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can obtain an order of protection yourself without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get an order of protection without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want orders of protection.

How Do I Get an Order of Protection?

If your situation is urgent, you can get an emergency order of protection from the police at any time. An emergency order lasts for 72 hours.[8] Whether or not you have an emergency order, you can go to court to file for a temporary order of protection. The judge can give you the temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 10 days.[9] After the hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent order of protection which lasts 6 months and is renewable for an additional 6 months.[10]

What Can I Ask for in an Order of Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order of protection:

- The abuser must stay away from you[11]
- The abuser cannot abuse or contact you[12]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[13][14]
- Temporary child and spousal support[15]
- Counseling[16]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser[17]
- Use of property[18]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[19]

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[1] N.M. Stat. Ann §40-13-2(D) (2007).
[2] *Id.*
[3] *Id.* §40-13-2(A),(D).
[4] *Id.*
[5] *Id.* §40-13-2(D).
[6] *Id.*
[7] *Id.* §§40-4-8, 40-13-2.
[8] *Id.* §40-13-3.2(E).
[9] *Id.* §40-13-4(C), (D).
[10] *Id.* §40-13-6(B).
[11] *Id.* §40-13-5(A).
[12] *Id*. §40-13-5(A)(3).
[13] *Id.* §40-13-5(A)(2).
[14] *Id.*
[15] *Id.*
[16] *Id.* §40-13-5(A)(6).
[17] *Id.* §40-13-5(A)(5).
[18] *Id.* §40-13-5(A)(1).
[19] *Id*. §40-13.3.1.

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NEW YORK

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, New York's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for an Order of Protection in New York?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for an order of protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You have a child with[1]
- You are married to or used to be married to[2]
- You are related to by blood or marriage[3]

Type of Abuse[4]
A judge is allowed to give you an order of protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened physical abuse
- Stalked you

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can obtain an order of protection yourself without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get an order of protection without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want orders of protection.

How Do I Get an Order of Protection?

If you want an order of protection, you can go to the court and file for temporary order of protection. If the judge gives you a temporary order, you will have to attend another hearing where the judge can grant you a permanent order of protection. This lasts up to two years under normal circumstances or five years under especially dangerous circumstances.[5]

What Can I Ask for in an Order of Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order of protection:

- The abuser must stay away from your home, school, work, or any other specific places.[6]
- The abuser must stay away from your spouse, parents, or children.[7]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser[8]
- Child custody and visitation[9]
- Child support[10]
- Counseling for the abuser at abuser's expense[11]
- Attorneys fees[12]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.

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[1] N.Y. Fam. Ct. Act § 812(1)(d) (2007).
[2] *Id.* §812(1)(b), (c).
[3] *Id.*
[4] *Id*. § 812(1).
[5] *Id*. § 842.
[6] *Id.* § 842(a).
[7] *Id.*
[8] *Id*. § 841(e), (i).
[9] *Id.* § 842.
[10] *Id*. § 842.
[11] *Id*. § 842(g).
[12] *Id*. § 842(f).

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NORTH CAROLINA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, North Carolina's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in North Carolina?

Type of Relationship

In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You live with or used to live with (as long as you and the abuser are a man and a woman)[1]
- You are dating or used to date (as long as you and the abuser are a man and a woman)[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- Who is your parent, child, grandparent or grandchild (you may not get a protective order against a child or grandchild under age 16)[5]
- Who is or was a member of your household[6]

Type of Abuse[7]

A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Harassed you
- Inflicted substantial emotional distress

Age

If you are 18 older, you can obtain a protective order yourself without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a protective order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want protective orders.

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you want to obtain a protective order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protective order. A judge can give you the temporary order that day and will schedule a time for you to come back to court for a full hearing.[8] After the hearing, a judge can give you a final order that lasts one year and is renewable.[9]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Abuser must not contact, harass, threaten, or visit you at home or at work[10]
- Abuser must not purchase a firearm[11]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[12]
- Child and spousal support[13]
- Temporary and/or exclusive use of the property (includes providing alternate housing)[14]
- Counseling for abuser[15]
- Attorneys fees[16]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[17]

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[1] N.C. Gen. Stat. §50B-1(b)(2) (2006).
[2] *Id.* §50B-1(b)(6) (2006).
[3] *Id*. §50B-1(b)(4).
[4] *Id.* §50B-1(b)(1).
[5] *Id.* §50B-1(b)(3).
[6] *Id.* §50B-1(b)(3), (5).
[7] *Id*. §50B-1.
[8] *Id.* §50B-2(c).
[9] *Id.* §50B-3(b).
[10] *Id.* §50B-3(a)(9).
[11] *Id.* §50B-3(a)(11).
[12] *Id*. §50B-3(a)(4), (a1).
[13] *Id.* §50B-3(a)(6),(7).
[14] *Id.* §50B-3(a)(2),(3),(5).
[15] *Id.* §50B-3(a)(12).
[16] *Id.* §50B-3(a)(10).
[17] *Id.* §50B-2(a).

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NORTH DAKOTA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, North Dakota's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in North Dakota?

Type of Relationship[1]
In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date
- You are living with or used to live with
- You have a child with
- You are married to or used to be married to
- Who is your parent or your child
- You are related to by blood or marriage
- Whom the judge decides you have a relationship with that is sufficient to qualify

Type of Abuse[2]
A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you

Age
If you are 18 older, you can obtain a protection order yourself without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a protection order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want protection orders.

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If your situation is urgent, you can get an emergency protection order from the police at any time. An emergency protection order lasts for 72 hours.[3] Whether or not you have an emergency order, you may go to court to file for a temporary protection order. The judge can give you a temporary order the day you file and will schedule a full hearing within 14 days.[4] After the hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent protection order that lasts for up to a year.[5]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Abuser must not contact, harass, threaten, or molest you[6]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[7]
- Child and spousal support[8]
- Temporary possession or use of the home, car and other essential personal items[9]
- Counseling[10]
- Attorneys fees[11]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[12]

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[1] N.D. Cent. Code §14-07.1-01(4) (2007).
[2] *Id.* §14-07.1-01.
[3] *Id.* §14-07.1-08.
[4] *Id.* §14-07.1-02(2); -03(4).
[5] *Id.* §14-07.1-13(3).
[6] *Id.* §14-07.1-02(4)(a).
[7] *Id.* §14-07.1-02(4)(c).
[8] *Id.* §14-07.1-02(4)(e).
[9] *Id.* §14-07.1-02(4)(b), (f).
[10] *Id.* §14-07.1-02(4)(d).
[11] *Id.* §14-07.1-02(4)(e).
[12] *Id.* §14-07.1-03(6).

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OHIO

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, Ohio's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Ohio?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You live with or have lived with in the last 5 years[1]
- You have a child with[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- Who is your parent or your child[4]
- Who you are related to by blood or marriage and you live with or used to live with[5]

Type of Abuse[6]
A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Stalked you
- Recklessly endangered you

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can obtain a protection order yourself without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, you will need a parent or adult household member to file for you.[7]

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If you want to obtain a protection order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protection order. A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 7 to 10 days.[8] After the hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent protection order which lasts 5 years and is renewable.[9]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Abuser must not abuse you or your family or household members[10]
- Abuser must stay away from your home, school, and work[11]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[12]
- Temporary and/or exclusive use of the property or provide alternate housing[13]
- Child and spousal support[14]
- Counseling[15]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[16]

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[1] Ohio Rev. Code Ann. §3113.31(A)(4) (2007).
[2] *Id.* §3113.31(A)(3)(b).
[3] *Id.* §3113.31(A)(3)(a)(i).
[4] *Id.* §3113.31(A)(3)(a)(ii).
[5] *Id.* §3113.31(A)(3)(a).
[6] *Id.* §§3113.31(A)(1), 2903.211, 2911.211.
[7] *Id.* §3113.31(C).
[8] *Id.* §3113.31(D)(2)(a).
[9] *Id.* §3113.31(E)(3)(a), (c).
[10] *Id.* §3113.31(E)(1)(a).
[11] *Id.* §3113.31(E)(1)(g).
[12] *Id.* §3113.31(E)(1)(d).
[13] *Id.* §3113.31(E)(1)(b), (c).
[14] *Id.* §3113.31(E)(1)(e).
[15] *Id.* §3113.31(E)(1)(f).
[16] *Id.* §3113.31(J).

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OKLAHOMA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes restraining orders very accessible to teens, Oklahoma's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is an A.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Oklahoma?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You live or used to live with[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- Who is your parent or child[5]
- You are related to by blood or marriage, includes step-parents, in-laws, and adoption or foster relationships[6]
- Who stalked or raped you, whether or not you have a relationship with or even know them[7]

Type of Abuse[8]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Emotionally distressed you
- Harassed you
- Stalked you
- Sexually harassed you
- Harassed you through obscene telephone calls

Age
If you are 16 or older, you can get a protective order yourself, without an adult's permission.[9] If you are under 16, you will need an adult family or household member to file for you.[10] You can get a protective order against anyone who is 13 or older.[11]

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you want to get a protective order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protective order.[12] The judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 20 days.[13] After the hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent protective order which lasts 3 years and is renewable.[14]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Anything necessary to stop the domestic abuse against the victim[15]
- Stop visitation or order supervised visitation[16]
- Counseling for both parties[17]
- Abuser must not use and must surrender any guns used to commit the domestic violence[18]
- Attorneys fees[19]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[20]

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[1] Okla. Stat. Ann. tit. 22, §60.1(5) (2007).
[2] *Id.* §60.1(4)(G).
[3] *Id.* §60.1(4)(H).
[4] *Id.* §60.1(4)(A), (B).
[5] *Id.* §60.1(4)(D), (E).
[6] *Id.* §60.1(4).
[7] *Id.*
[8] *Id.* §§60.1(1)-(3); tit. 22, §60.2(A).
[9] *Id.* §60.2(A).
[10] *Id.* §60.2(A).
[11] *Id.* §60.1(1)-(2).
[12] *Id.* §60.3(A).
[13] *Id.* §60.4(B)(1)-(2).
[14] *Id.* §60.4(G)(1).
[15] *Id.* §60.4(C)(1).
[16] *Id.* §60.4(I)(1).
[17] *Id.* §60.4(E)(1)-(2).
[18] *Id.* §§60.8; tit. 21, §1290.11(A)(8).
[19] *Id.* §60.2(C).
[20] *Id.* §60.2(C)(1).

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OREGON

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, Oregon's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for a Restraining Order in Oregon?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a restraining order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are sexually intimate with (or have been sexually intimate with in the last two years)[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- You are related to by blood, marriage, or adoption (as long as both of you are adults)[5]

Type of Abuse[6]
A judge is allowed to give you a restraining order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Sexually abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Recklessly endangered you
- Placed you in fear of imminent bodily injury

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can get a restraining order on your own without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, you can file on your own if the abuser is your spouse, former spouse or you are sexually intimate with your abuser and your abuser is 18 or over.[7] If you are under 18 and want a restraining order against anyone else, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a restraining order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want restraining orders.

How Do I Get a Restraining Order?

If you want a restraining order, you can go to court to file for a temporary restraining order. A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a date for a full hearing. After the hearing, the judge can grant you a permanent order which lasts for 1 year and is renewable.[8]

What Can I Ask for in a Restraining Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a restraining order:

- The abuser cannot enter or try to enter a place or surrounding areas where you are[9]
- Abuser cannot intimidate, molest, interfere or contact you in person, by phone or by mail[10]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[11]
- Attorneys fees[12]
- Abuser is required to attend perpetrator intervention program[13]
- Any other relief necessary for safety and welfare of you and your children[14]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[15]

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[1] Or. Rev. Stat. §107.705(3)(e) (2005).
[2] *Id.* §107.705(3)(d).
[3] *Id.* §107.705(3)(f).
[4] *Id.* §107.705(3)(a), (b).
[5] *Id.*
[6] *Id.* §107.705
[7] *Id.* §107-726.
[8] *Id*. §§107.718(3), 107.725.
[9] *Id.* §107.718(1)(g).
[10] *Id.* §107.718(1)(e).
[11] *Id.* §107.718(1)(a), (4).
[12] *Id.* §107.716(2), §107.837.
[13] *Id.* §107.718(6)(c).
[14] *Id.* §107.718(1)(h).
[15] *Id.* §107.718(8)(c).

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PENNSYLVANIA

B

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Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders reasonably accessible to teens, Pennsylvania's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a B.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Pennsylvania?

Type of Relationship[1]
In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are or used to be involved in an intimate or sexual relationship with
- You live with or used to live with
- You have a child with
- You are married to or used to be married to
- Who is your parent or your child
- You are related to by blood or marriage

Type of Abuse[2]
A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you, attempted to physically abuse you or put you in fear of serious bodily injury
- Sexually abused you
- Harassed you
- Recklessly endangered you
- Unlawfully held you against your will
- Stalked you

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can get a protection order yourself without adult involvement.[3] If you are under 18, you will need either your parent, adult household member, or a guardian ad litem to file for you.[4]

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If your situation is urgent, you can get an emergency protection order at any time. The emergency order lasts until the end of the next business day when the court is available.[5] Whether or not you have an emergency order, you may go to court to file for a temporary protection order. A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 10 days.[6] After the hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent protection order which lasts up to 3 years and is renewable.[7]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Abuser cannot abuse, stalk, contact, or harass you, your minor children or relatives.[8]
- Abuser must stay away from your school or work[9]
- Child custody and visitation[10]
- Child and spousal support[11]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser[12]
- Abuser must not use and must surrender all firearm(s)[13]
- Attorney fees[14]

How Much Will It Cost?

You only have to pay if your abuser prevails at the hearing. A judge will order the abuser to pay once the permanent protection order is granted.[15]

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[1] 23 Pa. Cons. Stat. §6102(a) (2006).
[2] *Id.* §6102.
[3] *Id.* §6102(a).
[4] *Id.* §6106(a).
[5] *Id.* §6110(b).
[6] *Id.* §6107(a).
[7] *Id.* §6108(d), (e)(1).
[8] *Id.* §6108(a)(1), (6), (9).
[9] *Id.*
[10] *Id*. §6108(a)(4).
[11] *Id.* §6108(a)(5).
[12] *Id.* §6108(a)(8).
[13] *Id.* §6108(a)(7).
[14] *Id.*
[15] *Id.* §6106(c).

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RHODE ISLAND

C

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders difficult for teens to obtain, Rhode Island's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a C.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Rhode Island?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or dated within the past year[1]
- You are living with or have lived with in the past 3 years (if both of you are over 18)[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or have been married to[4]
- You are related to by blood or marriage[5]
- Who is your parent or child (includes step-children), but only if child is under 18[6]

Type of Abuse[7]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Stalked or cyberstalked you
- Sexually abused you

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can obtain a protective order yourself without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a protective order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want protective orders.

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If your situation is urgent, you can get an emergency protective order from the police at any time. The emergency order lasts until the end of the next business day.[8] Whether or not you have an emergency order, you may go to court to file for a temporary protective order. A judge can give you a temporary order that day that lasts up to 21 days and will schedule a date for a full hearing.[9] After the hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent protective order which lasts 3 years and is renewable.[10]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Abuser must stay away from you and cannot assault, molest or both you[11][12]
- Abuser cannot contact you at home on the street, or other specified areas[13]
- Temporary, exclusive use of the home[14]
- Child custody[15]
- Child support (not to exceed for 90 day)[16]
- Abuser cannot use or must surrender firearm(s)[17]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[18]

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[1] R.I. Gen. Laws §§8-8.1-1(3), 15-15-1(5) (2006).
[2] *Id.* §8-8.1-1(1).
[3] *Id.* §15-15-1(3).
[4] *Id.* §15-15-1(2).
[5] *Id.* §15-15-1(4).
[6] *Id.*
[7] *Id.* §§8-8.1-1(3), 15-15-1.
[8] *Id.* §§8.8.1-4(b)(1), 15-15-4(b).
[9] *Id.* §§8.8.1-4(a), 15-15-4(a).
[10] *Id.* §§8-8.1-3(i), 15-15-3(h)(2).
[11] *Id.* §§8-8.1-3(a)(1), 15-15-3(a)(1).
[12] *Id.*
[13] *Id.* §§8-8.1-3(a)(1), 15-15-3(a)(1).
[14] *Id.* §§8-8.1-3(a)(1),(2); 15-15-3(a)(1),(2.)
[15] *Id.* §15-15-3(a)(3).
[16] *Id.* §15-15-3(a)(4).
[17] *Id.* §15-15-3(a)(5).
[18] *Id*. §15-15-2(c).

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SOUTH CAROLINA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, South Carolina's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for an Order of Protection in South Carolina?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for an order of protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You live with or used to live with (if they are of the opposite sex) [1]
- You are married to or used to be married to[2]
- You have a child with[3]

Type of Abuse[4]
A judge is allowed to give you an order of protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can obtain an order of protection yourself without an adult's permission. If you are under 18, you will need an adult household member to file for you.[5]

How Do I Get an Order of Protection?

If you want to obtain an order of protection, you can go to court to file for a temporary order of protection. A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 15 days.[6] After the hearing, a judge can give you a permanent order of protection which lasts 6 months to 1 year and is renewable.[7]

What Can I Ask for in an Order of Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order of protection:

- Abuser cannot abuse, threaten, molest, communicate or attempt to communicate with you[8]
- Abuser must stay away from your home, school, work and other specified places[9]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[10]
- Temporary child and spousal support[11]
- Temporary and/or exclusive use of the home[12]
- Attorneys fees[13]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[14]

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[1] S.C. Code Ann. §20-4-20(b)(iv) (2006).
[2] *Id.* §20-4-20(b)(i)-(ii).
[3] *Id.* §20-4-20(b)(iii).
[4] *Id.* §20-4-20
[5] *Id.* §20-4-40(a).
[6] *Id.* §20-4-50(a),(b).
[7] *Id.* §20-4-70(A).
[8] *Id.* §20-4-60(a)(1)-(2).
[9] *Id.* §20-4-60(a)(2).
[10] *Id.* §20-4-60(c)(1).
[11] *Id.* §20-4-60(c)(2).
[12] *Id.* §20-4-60(c)(3).
[13] *Id.* §20-4-60(c)(6).
[14] *Id.* §20-4-40(f).

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SOUTH DAKOTA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, South Dakota's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in South Dakota?

Type of Relationship[1]
In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You live with or used to live with
- You have a child with
- You are married to or used to be married to
- You are related to by blood, marriage or adoption

Type of Abuse[2]
A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Attempted to physically abuse you

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can get a protection order on your own without adult involvement.[3] If you are under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a protection order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want protection orders.

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If you want a protection order, you can go to court to request a temporary protection order. A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 30 days.[4] After a full hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent protection order which lasts up to 3 years.[5]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Abuser must not abuse you[6]
- Temporary or exclusive use of a joint residence[7]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[8]
- Temporary child and spousal support[9]
- Abuser cannot use or must surrender firearm(s)[10]
- Counseling for both parties[11]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[12]

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[1] S.D. Codified Laws §25-10-1(2).
[2] *Id.* §25-10-1.
[3] *Id.* §26-1-1.
[4] *Id.* §§25-10-4, 25-10-7, 25-10-7.1.
[5] *Id.* §25-10-5.
[6] *Id.* §§25-10-1(3), 25-10-5(1).
[7] *Id.* §25-10-5(2).
[8] *Id.* §25-10-5(3).
[9] *Id.* §25-10-5(4).
[10] *Id*. §25-10-24.
[11] *Id.* §25-10-5(5).
[12] *Id.* §25-9B-313.

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TENNESSEE

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders extremely difficult for teens to obtain, Tennessee's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a D.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Tennessee?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You live with or used to live with[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- You are related to by blood, marriage, or adoption[4]

Type of Abuse[5]
A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Sexually assaulted you
- Stalked you
- Damaged your property
- Unlawfully held you against your will

Age
If you are 18 or older, you can get a protection order yourself.[6] If you are under 18, you will need the signature of one parent or guardian on the petition.[7]

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If you want a protection order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protection order. A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 15 days.[8] After the hearing, a judge may grant you a permanent protection order which lasts for less than one year and is renewable.[9]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Abuser cannot contact you or communicate with you directly or indirectly[10]
- The abuser cannot abuse, stalk, assault or threaten you or your minor children[11]
- Temporary and/or exclusive use of property[12]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[13]
- Child and spousal support[14]
- Counseling for abuser[15]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[16]

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[1] Tenn. Code Ann. §36-3-601(11)(C) (2007).
[2] *Id.* §36-3-601(11)(B).
[3] *Id.* §36-3-601(11)(A).
[4] *Id.* §36-3-601(8)(D), (E), (F).
[5] *Id.* §§36-3-601(1), 36-3-602(a).
[6] *Id.* §36-3-602(2).
[7] *Id.* §36-3-602(b).
[8] *Id.* §36-3-605(b).
[9] *Id*.
[10] *Id.* §36-3-606(a)(2).
[11] *Id.* §36-3-606(a)(1).
[12] *Id.* §36-3-606(a)(4).
[13] *Id.* §36-3-606(a)(6).
[14] *Id.* §36-3-606(a)(7).
[15] *Id.* §36-3-606(a)(8).
[16] *Id.* §36-3-617(a).

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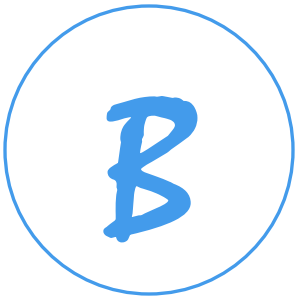

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TEXAS

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders reasonably accessible to teens, Texas' grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a B.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Texas?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You live with or used to live with[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- You are related to by blood or marriage (including foster parent and child)[5]

Type of Abuse[6]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you or attempted or threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Sexually assaulted you

Age
If you are 18 or over, you can get a protective order by yourself without an adult's involvement. If you are under 18, an adult family member or any adult may file for you.[7]

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you want a protective order, you may go to court to file for a temporary protective order. A judge may give you temporary order that day that lasts up to 20 days and will schedule a full hearing within 14 days after filing.[8] After the hearing, a judge can grant you a permanent protective order which lasts for 2 years and is renewable.[9]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Abuser must not commit family violence, threaten or harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, or embarrass you[10]
- The abuser cannot communicate directly or indirectly in a threatening or harassing manner (the only exception is that the abuser can communicate through an attorney)[11]
- Abuser must stay away from your residence, work, business, child care, school[12]
- Temporary or exclusive use of the home[13]
- Child and spousal support[14]
- Counseling for abuser[15]
- Retention of abuser's firearm[16]
- Attorneys fees[17]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[18]

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[1] Tex. Fam. Code Ann. §71.0021(b), (c) (2007).
[2] *Id.* §71.005
[3] *Id.* §71.003
[4] *Id.*
[5] *Id.*
[6] *Id.* §§71.004, 71.0021.
[7] *Id.* §82.002(a),(c).
[8] Tex. Fam. Code. Ann. §§84.001, 84.002.
[9] *Id*. §§85.025(a)(1), 82.008, 82.025, 82.0085.
[10] *Id.* §85.022(b)(2)(A)-(B); (b)(5).
[11] *Id.*
[12] *Id.* §85.022(b)(3)-(4).
[13] *Id.* §83.006, 85.021(2) (abuser must have committed violence within the last 30 days against household member, applicant must have lived in the house during the last 30 days, and must be likely danger of future abuse. If abuser owns the property, court must find an obligation to support party or child who is granted possession of house.).
[14] *Id.* §85.021(4).
[15] *Id.* §85.022(a)(1)-(2).
[16] *Id.* §85.022(b)(6).
[17] *Id.* §81.005.
[18] *Id.* §81.002.

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UTAH

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, Utah's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Utah?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You live with or used to live with[1]
- You have a child with (including if you are pregnant with the abuser's child)[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- You are related to by blood or marriage (if a parent, child or sibling, you must be 18)[4]

Type of Abuse[5]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Harassed or stalked you
- Recklessly endangered you
- Sexually abused you or sexually harassed you
- Possession of a deadly weapon with intent to assault you
- Damaged your property

Age
If you are 16 or older, you can obtain a protective order yourself without an adult's permission. If you are under 16, Utah does not specify who files for you.[6] It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a protective order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want protective orders.

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you want a protective order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protective order. A judge can give you a protective order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 20 days. [7] After the hearing, a judge can give you a permanent protective order which lasts for either 150 days or 2 years.[8]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Abuser must not abuse, threaten, harass, telephone, contact or communicate with you, directly or indirectly[9]
- Abuser must stay away from your home, school, work and other places you or any family or household member frequent[10]
- Child and spousal support[11]
- Use or possession of the home, car and other essential personal items[12]
- Temporary child custody and visitation (including supervised visitation or stopping visitation for the safety of you or your child)[13]
- Abuser's gun can be taken away upon showing that it might pose a serious threat to you[14]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[15]

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[1] Utah Code Ann. §30-6-1(2)(b), (f) (2007).
[2] *Id.* §30-6-1(2)(d), (e).
[3] *Id.* §30-6-1(3)(a).
[4] *Id*. §30-6-1(3)(a).
[5] *Id.* §§30-6-1(1), 77-36-1(2).
[6] *Id.* §30-6-2.
[7] *Id.* §§30-6-4.2(1), 30-6-4.3(1).
[8] *Id*. §§30-6-4(1)(b)(v), 30-6-4.3(6)(a).
[9] *Id.* §30-6-4.2(2)(a)-(b), (e), (g).
[10] *Id.* §30-6-4.2(2)(c).
[11] *Id.* §30-6-4.2(2)(h).
[12] *Id.* §30-6-4.2(2)(c), (f).
[13] *Id.* §30-6-4.2(2)(f), (3)(b).
[14] *Id.* §30-6-4.2(2)(d).
[15] Utah Code Ann. §30-6-4(1)(a), (3).

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VERMONT

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protective orders difficult for teens to obtain, Vermont's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a C.

Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Vermont?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protection order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You are or used to be in a sexual relationship with[2]
- You live with or used to live with[3]
- Who shared occupancy of a dwelling[4]
- In your family[5]

Type of Abuse[6]
A judge is allowed to give you a protection order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Placed you in fear of imminent serious physical harm
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually assaulted you
- Stalked you

Age
If you are over 18, you can file for a protection order yourself, without an adult's involvement. If you are under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a protection order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want protection orders.

How Do I Get a Protection Order?

If your want a protection order, you can go to court and file for a temporary protection order. A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 10 days.[7] After the hearing, a judge can give you a permanent order which lasts as long as the judge orders and is renewable.[8]

What Can I Ask for in a Protection Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protection order:

- Abuser must stay a specific distance away from you and your children and cannot interfere with your personal liberty[9]
- Abuser must stay away from your residence and other places you often go to[10]
- Your abuser cannot contact you or your children by phone or mail.[11]
- Temporary child and spousal support (not to exceed 3 months)[12]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[13]

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[1] Vt. Stat. Ann. tit. 15 §1101(2) (2006).
[2] *Id.*
[3] *Id.*
[4] *Id.*
[5] *Id.*
[6] *Id.* §1101(1).
[7] *Id.* §1104(b).
[8] *Id.* §1103(e).
[9] *Id.* §1103(c)(1).
[10] *Id*.
[11] *Id.*
[12] *Id.* §1103(c)(5), (6).
[13] *Id.* §1103(f).

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VIRGINIA

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, Virginia's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in Virginia?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You live with or have lived with in last 12 months[1]
- You have a child with[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- In your family, including relatives, parents, step-parent, step-children, grandparents, grandchildren, and step/full siblings[4]
- Who is you are related to by marriage and who lives in your home[5]

Type of Abuse[6]
A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Attempted to physically abuse you

Age
If you are over 18, you can file for a protective order yourself, without an adult's involvement. If you are under 18, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get a protective order without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want protective orders.

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If your situation is urgent, you can get an emergency protective order from the police at any time. Emergency orders last for 72 hours or until 5:00 p.m. the next day when the court is open.[7] Whether or not you have an emergency order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protective order. A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 15 day to 30 days.[8] After the hearing, a judge can give you a permanent protective order which lasts up to 2 years.[9]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Abuser must not abuse or contact you or your family or household members[10]
- Temporary or exclusive use of the home or provide alternate housing[11]
- Possession and use of the car[12]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[13]
- Temporary child support[14]
- Attorneys fees[15]
- Counseling for abuser[16]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[17]

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[1] Va. Code Ann. §16.1-228 (vi) (2006).
[2] *Id.* §16.1-228(v)
[3] *Id.* §16.1-228(i), (ii). .
[4] *Id.* §16.1-228(iii), (iv).
[5] *Id.*
[6] *Id.* §1101(1).
[7] *Id.* §16.1-253.4(c).
[8] *Id.* §16.1-253.1(B)
[9] *Id.*
[10] *Id.* §16.1-279.1(A)(2)
[11] *Id.* §§16.1-279.1(A)(6), 16.1-253.1(a)(4); 16.1-253.4(B)(3).
[12] *Id.* §16.1-279.1(A)(5).
[13] *Id.* §16.1-279.1(A)(8).
[14] *Id.* §16.1-279.1(A1).
[15] *Id.* §16.1-279.1(D).
[16] *Id.* §16.1-279.1(A)(7).
[17] *Id.* §16.1-279.1(I).

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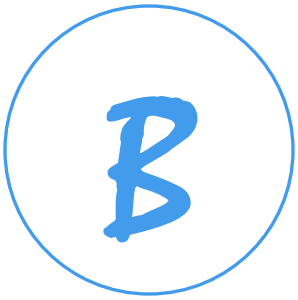

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WASHINGTON

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes orders for protection reasonably accessible to teens, Washington's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a B.

Do I Qualify for an Order for Protection in Washington?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for an order for protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date (if you are both 16 years or older)
- You live with or used to live with while dating (if you are both 16 years or older)[1]
- You have a child with[2]
- You are married to or used to be married to[3]
- You live with or used to live with (if you are both over 18)[4]
- You are related to by blood or marriage (if you are both over 18)[5]
- Who is your parent, child, stepparent, stepchild, grandparent, or grandchild[6]

Type of Abuse[7]
A judge is allowed to give you an order for protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you
- Sexually assaulted you
- Stalked you

Age
If you are 16 or older, you can get an order for protection yourself without an adult's permission.[8] If you are under 16, you will need an adult family or household member to file for you.[9]

How Do I Get an Order for Protection?

If you want an order for protection, you can go to court to file for a temporary order for protection, which will last for 14 to 24 days.[10] A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will also schedule a date for a full hearing. After the hearing, a judge can give you a permanent order for protection that will last for a fixed period or can be permanent and may be renewed 3 months before it expires.[11]

What Can I Ask for in an Order for Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order for protection:

- Abuser must stay away from you[12]
- Abuser must not abuse or contact you or your child or household members[13]
- Counseling for abuser[14]
- Temporary possession or use of the home, car and other essential personal items[15]
- Attorneys fees and court costs[16]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[17]

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[1] Wash. Rev. Code Ann. §26.50-010(2),(3) (2007).
[2] *Id.*
[3] *Id.*
[4] *Id.* §26.50.010(2).
[5] *Id.*
[6] *Id.*
[7] *Id*. § 9-15-103.
[8] *Id.* §26.50.020(2).
[9] *Id.* §26.50.020(1)-(2).
[10] *Id.* §26.50.070(4).
[11] *Id.* §26.50.060(2)-(3).
[12] *Id.* §26.50.070(1)(c).
[13] *Id.* §26.50.070(1)(a), (e).
[14] *Id.* §26.50.060(1)(e).
[15] *Id.* §§26.50.010(7), 26.50.060(1)(b), (k)-(l)
[16] *Id.* §26.50.060(1)(g).
[17] *Id.* §26.50.030 (4).

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WEST VIRGINIA

C

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders difficult for teens to obtain, West Virginia's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a C.

Do I Qualify for a Protective Order in West Virginia?

Type of Relationship

In order to qualify for a protective order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date (includes sexual and intimate partners)[1]
- You live with or used to live with[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- In your family, including parents, stepparents, in-laws, siblings, half and step siblings, stepchildren, aunts, uncles, nephew, nieces, cousins, or grandparents[5]

Type of Abuse[6]

A judge is allowed to give you a protective order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused or sexually assaulted you
- Harassed you
- Recklessly endangered you
- Sexually harassed you
- Unlawfully held you against your will
- Psychologically abused you

Age

If you are 18 or older, you can get a protective order on your own, without an adult's involvement. If you are a minor, a family member or household member of the minor victim may file for you.[7]

How Do I Get a Protective Order?

If you want a protective order, you can go to court to file for a temporary protective order. A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will schedule a full hearing within 10 days of issuing the temporary order.[8] After the hearing, a judge can give you a permanent protective order which lasts for 90 to 180 days.[9] A 90 day permanent protective order is renewable for an additional 90 days.[10]

What Can I Ask for in a Protective Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a protective order:

- Abuser must stay away from you, your school and work[11]
- Abuser must not abuse, harass, stalk, threaten, intimidate, verbally harass, or contact you through telephone[12]
- Child custody and visitation[13]
- Child and spousal support[14]
- Money for damages caused by the abuser[15]
- Temporary and/or exclusive use of the property[16]
- Counseling for abuser[17]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[18]

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[1] W. Va. Code Ann. §48-27-204(3), (4) (2007).
[2] *Id.* §48-27-204(2), (5).
[3] *Id.* §48-27-204 (6).
[4] *Id.* §48-27-204 (1).
[5] *Id.* §48-27-204.
[6] *Id.* §48-27-202.
[7] *Id.* §48-27-305(2).
[8] *Id.* §48-27-403(d).
[9] *Id.* §48-27-505
[10] *Id.* §48-27-505(a), (b).
[11] *Id.* §48-27-503(2), (7).
[12] *Id.* §§48-27-502(a); 503(7), (9).
[13] *Id.* §48-27-503(3)-(4).
[14] *Id.* §48-27-503(5), (6).
[15] *Id.*
[16] *Id.* §48-27-503(2).
[17] *Id.* §48-27-503(7).
[18] *Id.* §§48-27-308, 403(b).

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WISCONSIN

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it severely impedes teen victims' access to domestic violence protective orders, Wisconsin's grade for protecting teen victims of dating and domestic violence is an F.

Do I Qualify for a Restraining Order in Wisconsin?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for a restraining order, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date (as long as both of you are over 18)[1]
- You live with or used to live with (as long as both of you are over 18)[2]
- You have a child with (as long as both of you are over 18)[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to (as long as both of you are over 18)[4]
- You are related to by blood or adoption (as long as both of you are over 18)[5]

Type of Abuse[6]
A judge is allowed to give you a restraining order when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Sexually abused you
- Sexually assaulted you
- Threatened to abuse you or damage your property
- Criminally damaged your property

Age
If you are 18 years old or older, you may get a restraining order on your own without an adult's permission.[7] If you are under 18 years old, you will not qualify for a restraining order. The law specifically states it applies only to adults.[8]

How Do I Get a Restraining Order?

If you qualify for a restraining order, you can go to court to file for a temporary restraining order. A judge can give you a temporary order that day and will also schedule a full hearing within 14 days of issuing a the order.[9] After the hearing, the judge may grant you a permanent restraining order which lasts up to 4 years.[10]

What Can I Ask for in a Restraining Order?

You may ask the court for the following in a restraining order:

- Abuser cannot abuse you or contact you[11]
- Abuser must stay away from your residence and other places you often go to[12]
- Abuser must not use and must surrender any firearm(s)[13]
- Temporary, exclusive use of property[14]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[15]

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[1] Wis. Stat. Ann. §813.12(1)(ag) (2006).
[2] *Id.* §812.12(1)(c).
[3] *Id.* §812.12(1)(am).
[4] *Id.* §812.12(1)(am), (b).
[5] *Id.* §812.12(1)(b).
[6] *Id*. § 6320.
[7] *Id.* §813.122(1)(b).
[8] *Id*. §813.12(1)(am).
[9] *Id.* §913.12(3)(a)(2)(c).
[10] *Id*. §813.12(4).
[11] *Id*. §813.12(4).
[12] *Id.*
[13] *Id.* §813.12(4).
[14] *Id.* §813.12(4).
[15] *Id*. §813.12(4).

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WYOMING

Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protective order. Because it makes protective orders difficult for teens to obtain, Wyoming's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is a C.

Do I Qualify for an Order of Protection in Wyoming?

Type of Relationship
In order to qualify for an order of protection, the abuser must be someone:

- You are dating or used to date[1]
- You are living with or used to live with[2]
- You have a child with[3]
- You are married to or used to be married to[4]
- Who is your parent or your child (only if you are over 18)[5]

Type of Abuse[6]
A judge is allowed to give you an order of protection when your abuser has:

- Physically abused you
- Threatened to physically abuse you
- Attempted to physically abuse you
- Sexually abused you

Age
If you are 16 or older, or legally married, you can obtain an order of protection on your own.[7] If you are younger than 16, the law does not say who can file for you. It will be up to the individual courts and judges whether you can get an order of protection without your parent's permission. Check with a local domestic violence organization to see how your local courts handle minors who want orders of protection.

How Do I Get an Order of Protection?

If you qualify for an order of protection, you can go to court to file for a temporary order of protection. A judge can give you a temporary order of protection that day and will also schedule a full hearing within 72 hours of granting the temporary order.[8] After a full hearing, the court can grant you a permanent order of protection, which can last up to one year and is renewable.[9]

What Can I Ask for in an Order of Protection?

You may ask the court for the following in an order of protection:

- Abuser cannot initiate contact with you[10]
- Abuser cannot abduct, remove, or conceal your children or property in your custody[11]
- Temporary or exclusive use of residence[12]
- Attorney fees[13]
- Temporary child custody and visitation[14]
- Temporary child and spousal support[15]
- Money for damage caused by abuser (including medical expenses)[16]
- Counseling for abuser for up to 90 days[17]

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.[18]

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[1] Wyo. Stat. Ann. §35-21-102(a)(iv)(H) (2006).
[2] *Id.* §35-21-102(a)(iv)(D), (F).
[3] *Id.* §35-21-102(a)(iv)(G).
[4] *Id.* §35-21-102(a)(iv)(A), (C).
[5] *Id.* §35-21-102(a)(iv)(E).
[6] *Id.* §35-21-102(a)(iii).
[7] *Id.* §§35-21-102(a)(i), 35-21-103(a).
[8] *Id.* §35-21-104(a)(iii).
[9] *Id.* §35-21-106(b).
[10] *Id.* §35-21-105(a)(iii).
[11] *Id.* §35-21-105(a)(iv), (v).
[12] *Id.* §35-21-105(a)(i).
[13] *Id.* §35-21-103(h).
[14] *Id.* §35-21-105 (b)(i).
[15] *Id.* §35-21-105 (b)(ii).
[16] *Id.* §35-21-105(b)(iii).
[17] *Id.* §35-21-105(a)(vii).
[18] *Id.* §35-21-103(d).

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STATE-BY-STATE REPORT CARD
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICY IMPROVEMENT

In general, Break the Cycle's recommendations for improvement are motivated by the removal of any and all barriers that might prevent a young person from accessing protection under the law. Even in states that received an "A" grade, there are ways to make laws more accessible to and protective of teens. Following is a brief overview of recommendations for state law improvement:

- States should permit minors of 12-years-old and above to petition for protective orders.
- States should remove restrictions that require parental involvement, permission and/or notification in order for minors to access courts and essential services.
- States should ensure minors can apply for custody and child support for their own children.
- States should promote education among their judges and within the juvenile system on the issue of teen dating violence.
- States should permit same-sex couples to access protection from relationship violence.
- States should specifically define "dating" as meeting the relationship requirement within their domestic violence protective order and criminal statutes.
- State laws should provide for free legal services for minors seeking protection or at a minimum provide lay advocacy services for minor litigants.
- Statutes should ensure minors are legally able to consent to, contract for and afford services necessary for coping with the abuse such as medical care and mental health services. That might require states to establish funding pools to help adolescents cover the costs of services which are not free.
- States should ensure that minors can apply for and access Crime Victims Compensation Funds to help cover the costs associated with their victimization and treatment.
- States should hold minor perpetrators accountable by allowing protection orders to be issued against them and creating youth centered intervention programs. However, courts should also take into account the perpetrator's youth when determining appropriate court services and confidentiality.
- States should ensure that schools implement appropriate, effective school policies to address youth dating and sexual violence in a manner that respects victim confidentiality and holds perpetrators accountable.