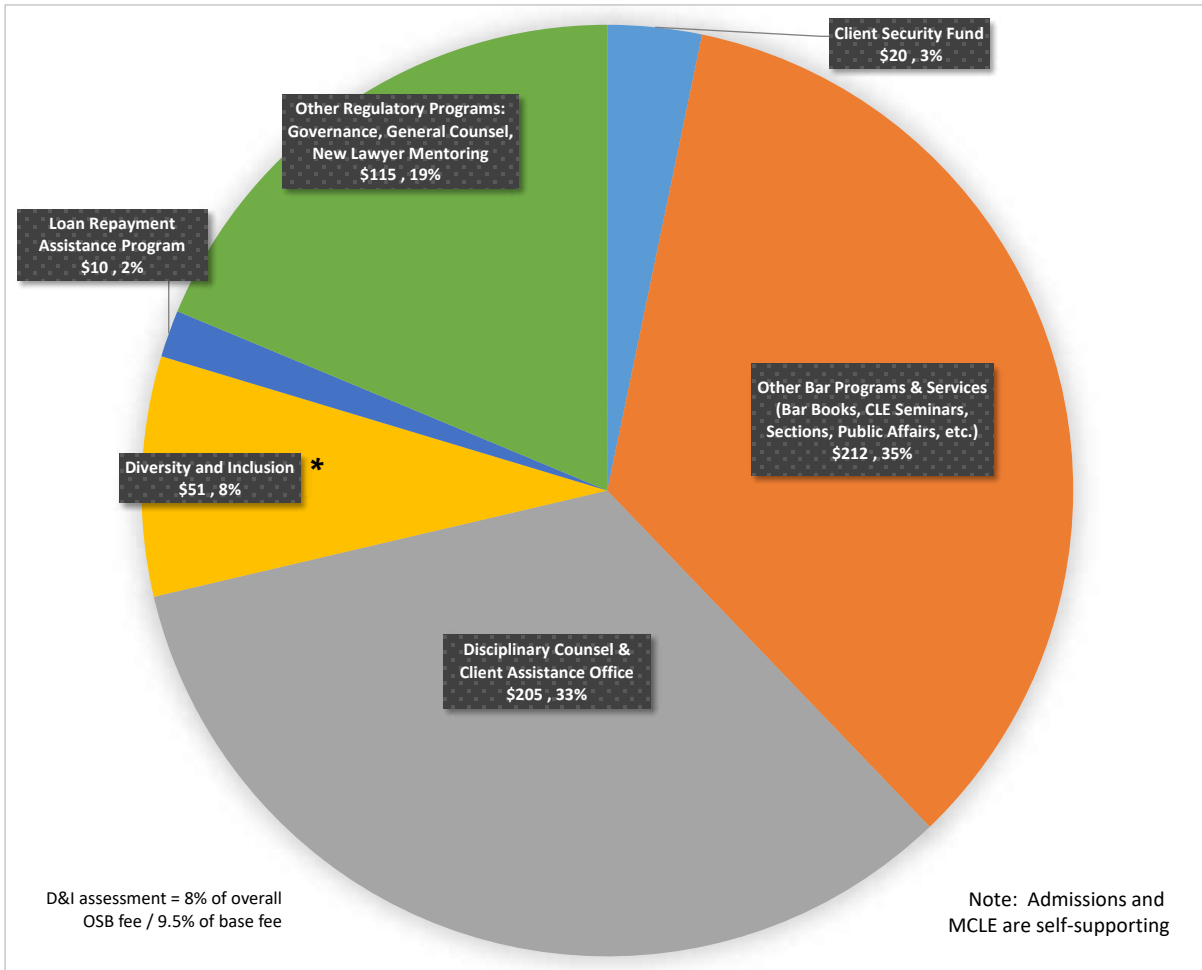


The Value of Your \$613 Total Membership Fee



- Client Security Fund — \$20
 - Other Bar Programs & Services (BarBooks™, Fastcase, Lawyer Referral, CLE Seminars, Sections, etc.) — \$212
 - Disciplinary Counsel and Client Assistance Offices — \$205
 - Diversity and Inclusion — \$51
 - Loan Repayment Assistance Program — \$10
 - Other Regulatory Programs: Governance, General Counsel, New Lawyer Mentoring — \$115
- Total — \$613

The Oregon State Bar's mission is to serve justice and the public interest.

We do this by promoting respect for the rule of law, by improving the quality of legal services and by increasing access to justice. Our efforts are organized into three core functional areas, as detailed below.

Regulate the Legal Profession and Improve the Quality of Legal Services

Our goal is to protect the public by ensuring competence and integrity and promoting professionalism in the legal profession. Our regulatory functions are performed under delegated authority from the judicial branch, ensuring that the courts can maintain fair and impartial review authority as the final arbiter in regulatory matters.

Public Protection

Admissions

Administers the bar exam and character and fitness evaluations; makes recommendations to the Oregon Supreme Court for admission to the Oregon State Bar.

Client Assistance Office

Reviews public inquiries about the conduct of lawyers in Oregon. In 2021, opened an average of 36 new files each week. Issued 1,844 dispositions. Just over 12 percent of matters were referred to Disciplinary Counsel for further evaluation regarding potential lawyer misconduct. The remainder were dismissed with an explanation provided to the inquirer, or provided information, assistance or referrals to other services. Also provided information and assistance in response to an average of 71 telephone inquiries each week.

Client Security Fund

Reimburses clients who suffer a loss due to dishonest conduct by their lawyers. In 2021, 13 new claims involving 10 lawyers were received; and 14 claims totaling \$189,661 were approved.

Fee Dispute Resolution

Voluntary program to resolve fee disputes between clients and lawyers. In 2021, 29 petitions were filed, with eight disputes mediated and five cases arbitrated.

Disciplinary Counsel's Office

Administers a fair and efficient system for the regulation of lawyers and enforcement of ethics rules. In 2021, DCO opened 292 new files and resolved 77 matters – resulting in 46 sanctions, 27 admonitions, 3 diversions and 1 dismissal.

Minimum Continuing Legal Education

Administers MCLE Rules and Regulations to ensure lawyers maintain and improve their knowledge, skills, and competence in the delivery of legal services to the public.

Unlawful Practice of Law

Enforces restrictions against practicing law without a license in Oregon; received 35 consumer complaints for investigation in 2021.

Lawyer Competence

BarBooks and Fastcase

Online legal research tools available to Oregon lawyers as part of their bar membership. BarBooks includes 45 titles written by lawyer volunteers and is regularly used by over 6,000 members; Fastcase is an online legal research tool accessed by more than 5,000 members who viewed over 606,000 documents in 2021.

Continuing Legal Education Seminars

Produces more than 40 live CLE seminars each year. In 2021, all were offered as remote live webcasts due to the pandemic. This format is expected to continue at least through the second quarter of 2022. During 2021, OSB members had 24/7 online access to 375 hours of MP3 downloads and 528 hours of on-demand video. In addition to general practice topics, offerings included legal ethics, abuse reporting, mental health, and access to justice presentations.

Ethics Advice

Responds to approximately 4,000 requests annually for advice on the application of ethics rules. Publishes formal ethics opinions drafted by lawyer volunteers. Publishes a standing column in the Bulletin providing further ethics guidance to Oregon lawyers.

Member Groups

Supports professional networking and leadership development through sections, committees, local and affinity bars and the Oregon New Lawyers Division. A total of 8,000 bar members belong to at least one bar section.

New Lawyer Mentoring Program

Matches new lawyers with experienced mentors to complete a required curriculum in the first year of a new lawyer's practice.

OSB AT A GLANCE

Support the Judiciary and Improve the Administration of Justice

Our goal is to protect and advance the quality, integrity and impartiality of the judicial system.

Judicial Selection

Reviews appellate court candidates for gubernatorial appointment; notifies bar members of judicial vacancies; publishes a Judicial Voters Guide to assist the public in primary and general election cycles.

Legal Publications

Produces Uniform Civil Jury Instructions and Uniform Criminal Jury Instructions publications.

Media Relations

Manages response, including public records production, to all media inquiries; works with media outlets to advance

accurate reporting on justice system issues, supports the public education goals of the OSB; manages social media for all OSB entities; advises staff and leadership on media strategy.

Public Affairs

Advocates for adequate funding of the judicial branch, indigent defense, civil legal aid and programs that promote access to justice. Works with bar sections on law improvement legislation. Supports the work of the Council on Court Procedures and Oregon Law Commission.

Advance a Fair, Inclusive and Accessible Justice System

Our goal is to foster trust in, respect for, understanding of, and access to the justice system.

Diversity & Inclusion

Works to increase the diversity of the Oregon bench and bar. Encourages increasing the diverse attorneys in Oregon with resources to Oregon law students. Administers the Opportunities for Law in Oregon (OLIO), Judicial Mentorship, ReBar and Leadership Institute programs. Collaborates with the Advisory Committee on Diversity & Inclusion and the OSB Diversity Section. Engages with the diversity work of OSB Sections and affinity bar organizations.

Legal Services & Pro Bono Programs

Administers court filing fees and other funding sources dedicated to legal aid, totaling approximately \$10.8 million in 2021, and ensures legal aid offices meet statewide standards. Encourages lawyers to volunteer with one of 30 OSB-certified pro bono programs.

Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP)

Provides forgivable loans to lawyers working in public service positions.

Public Legal Information

Produces public information on legal subjects for print, video, audio and the web. The public information pages of the OSB website received 1.3 million page views in 2021, and the Legal Q&A videos were viewed more than 30,000 times.

Referral & Information Services

Receives approximately 7,000 requests per month from people seeking legal help and information. Provides referrals to lawyers statewide, including a low-fee program for people of modest means and pro bono programs for teens and military personnel. Spanish-speaking staff are available during all open hours.

www.osbar.org

Contact Us

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