

# Getting Started

## Application for Waiver of Criminal Court Assessments

**IMPORTANT:** This getting started guide and the instructions are not legal advice. They are only meant to help you learn how to use the *Application for Waiver of Criminal Court Assessments* and *Order for Waiver of Criminal Court Assessments* forms. Your use of the forms does not guarantee you will be successful in court.

To learn how to fill out the forms and file them with the court, read the *How to Ask the Court to Waive Criminal Court Assessments* instruction sheet and the instructions on the forms.

<b>Names of the forms:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Application for Waiver of Criminal Court Assessments</i></li><li>• <i>Order for Waiver of Criminal Court Assessments</i></li></ul>
<b>Purpose of the forms:</b>	To ask the court to excuse you from having to pay all or any part of the fee assessments in your case.
<b>Types of cases the forms CAN be used for:</b>	All criminal cases, including felony and misdemeanor cases.
<b>Types of cases the forms CANNOT be used for:</b>	All civil and juvenile cases and fee assessments resulting from violations of the Illinois Vehicle Code. If you need to ask for a fee waiver in a civil case, you can use the <i>Application for Waiver of Court Fees</i> form found here: <a href="http://ilcourts.info/forms">ilcourts.info/forms</a> .
<b>Cost to File the forms:</b>	None.
<b>Special information or papers needed to complete the forms:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You will need to know your income and expense information for the past 12 months. You also need to know the value of your belongings, including any real estate.</li><li>• If you are filling this form out on behalf of a minor, you will need that person's information.</li><li>• If you get public benefits, you may want to bring current proof of eligibility and a benefits statement from the agency providing the benefit when you file your forms.</li><li>• If you don't get public benefits, you may want to bring documents showing your income, value of belongings (including real estate) and expense information when you file your forms.</li></ul>
<b>Statutes and court rules covering the forms:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">725 ILCS 5/124A-20</a> and <a href="#">705 ILCS 135/Article 15</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Illinois Supreme Court Rule 404</a></li></ul>
<b>Where to find the forms and instruction sheet:</b>	<a href="http://ilcourts.info/forms">ilcourts.info/forms</a>
<b>For more information:</b>	Read the <i>How to Ask the Court to Waive Criminal Court Assessments</i> instruction sheet that comes with these forms. You may also find more information, resources, and the location of your local county self help center at: <a href="http://illinoislegalaid.org/FeeWaiver">illinoislegalaid.org/FeeWaiver</a> .