



# MINNESOTA

**Break** the Cycle

Empowering Youth to End  
Domestic Violence

[www.breakthecycle.org](http://www.breakthecycle.org)  
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Each state has different requirements for getting a civil domestic violence protection order. Because it makes protection orders very accessible to teen, Minnesota's grade for protecting teen victims of domestic and dating violence is an A.

## Do I Qualify for a Protection Order in Minnesota?

### Type of Relationship

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

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

### Type of Abuse<sup>7</sup>

A judge may issue you a protection order when your abuser has:

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

### Age<sup>8</sup>

If you are 16 years old or older, you can obtain a protection order 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 a Protection Order?

If you qualify, 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 14 days of filing for the temporary order.<sup>9</sup> After the hearing, the judge can give you a permanent protection order which lasts for 1 year and is renewable.<sup>10</sup>

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

## How Much Will It Cost?

It is free<sup>18</sup>.

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

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<sup>1</sup> Minn. Stat. § 518B.01(2)(b)(7) (2006).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (2)(b)(4).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (2)(b)(1).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (2)(b)(5)-(6).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (2)(b)(2).

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (2)(b)(3).

<sup>7</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (2).

<sup>8</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (4)(a).

<sup>9</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (5)(a),(c),(d).

<sup>10</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (6)(12)(b).

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (6)(a)(9).

<sup>12</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (6)(a)(1).

<sup>13</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (6)(a)(2).

<sup>14</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (6)(a)(4).

<sup>15</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (6)(a)(5).

<sup>16</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (4)(h), (6)(a)(10).

<sup>17</sup> *Id.* §§ 518B.01 (6)(a)(6), (7).

<sup>18</sup> *Id.* § 518B.01 (3)(a).

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