



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 date¹
- You are living with or used to live with²
- You have a child with³
- You are married to or used to be married to⁴
- Who is your parent or your child (only if you are over 18)⁵

Type of Abuse⁶

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 you¹⁰
- Abuser cannot abduct, remove, or conceal your children or property in your custody¹¹
- Temporary or exclusive use of residence¹²
- Attorney fees¹³
- Temporary child custody and visitation¹⁴
- Temporary child and spousal support¹⁵
- Money for damage caused by abuser (including medical expenses)¹⁶
- Counseling for abuser for up to 90 days¹⁷

How Much Will It Cost?

It is free.¹⁸

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

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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