

The New Hampshire Bar Association  
*Law-Related Education Program*

Presents

***Beyond High School:  
A Guide To Your Rights and Responsibilities***



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## WELCOME TO ADULTHOOD

This guide will give you some basic information on your legal rights and responsibilities when you reach the age of 18, an adult. Because you are 18, you have many new rights, such as:

- voting in local and national elections,
- holding a public office,
- getting married without your parents' permission,
- renting an apartment in your own name,
- applying for credit in your own name, and
- buying a car.

In addition to rights, you also have responsibilities. When you become 18, you are:

- required to register for the draft if you are a male,
- responsible for paying back all money you borrow,
- not protected by juvenile laws for any crime,
- eligible for jury duty, and
- bound by any contracts you sign.

This guide will give you answers to some questions you may have as you start out as an adult. For instance, what should you do if you have a car accident? How do you buy a new or used car? What are your legal obligations if you rent an apartment? What are your legal obligations if you get married or have children?

Please remember that this guide provides a brief overview and information on how to obtain more detailed answers. This guide outlines many of your legal rights, but always remember that often your greatest asset is practical common sense. The literature referenced at the end of certain sections may be obtained from the New Hampshire Bar Association, 112 Pleasant Street, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2947 (603-224-6942); New Hampshire Legal Assistance, 1361 Elm Street, Manchester, New Hampshire 03104 (603-668-2900); and the Legal Advice and Referral Center, P.O. Box 4147 Concord, NH 03302-4147 (603) 224-3333.

PLEASE NOTE: this guide is based on New Hampshire law in effect at the time of publication. It is issued as a public service to provide general information only. It is not a substitute for specific legal advice.