

Global Pro Bono Guide 2026

Pro Bono Practices and Opportunities in Jordan

Introduction

The provision of pro bono legal services by lawyers in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (“**Jordan**”) is relatively uncommon. The relevant legislation governing the legal profession provides that the President of the Jordan Bar Association may assign any Jordanian lawyer, once per year, to represent an individual who lacks the means to hire a lawyer on a pro bono basis before court. However, there is no legal framework that specifically regulates the provision of pro bono services, nor are there additional licenses required for lawyers providing such services. Whilst pro bono work is not widely institutionalized, several non-governmental organizations (“**NGOs**”) in Jordan offer pro bono legal assistance to disadvantaged individuals and other groups.

At a glance

Minimum pro bono hours requirement for lawyers?	Specific pro bono licence required?	May foreign lawyers practice pro bono?	Insurance required for law firm pro bono?	Insurance required for in-house pro bono?	Rules to limit advertising pro bono work?	Does pro bono work count to CLE credit?	Limitations for in-house lawyers to do pro bono?
No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No

The landscape

Professional regulation	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the laws or rules that regulate the provision of legal services, including any licensing required to provide legal services. Please highlight any differences for lawyers working as in-house counsel. 	<p>The provision of legal services in Jordan is primarily regulated by the Jordanian Bar Association Law No. 11 of 1972 and its amendments (the “JBA Law”).</p> <p>Lawyers who wish to practice law, represent clients in court, or provide legal advice in Jordan (<i>whether in-house or otherwise</i>), must meet the licensing and membership requirements set out in the JBA Law.</p> <p>The JBA Law specifies the qualifications for becoming a licensed lawyer in Jordan, which include, <i>inter alia</i>, holding a degree in law from a recognized accredited university, completing two years of mandatory training under a senior lawyer (which can be reduced to a year of training if one holds a Master’s degree), and passing the Bar Association examination.</p>

Regulatory landscape for pro bono

<p>2. Describe the laws or rules that regulate the provision of pro bono legal services.</p>	<p>Whilst the provision of pro bono legal services in Jordan is not specifically governed by a standalone law or detailed regulatory framework, please note the following:</p> <p>Pursuant to the JBA Law¹, the President of the Jordan Bar Association may assign any Jordanian lawyer, once per year, to represent an individual who lacks the means to hire a lawyer on a pro bono basis before court. In practice, accepting such a pro bono assignment is not mandatory, and the lawyer may refuse to provide representation. There are also no guidelines regarding who is eligible for such legal assistance, and the decision to request a lawyer to provide free representation rests in the sole discretion of the President of the Bar Association.</p>
<p>3. Do lawyers need a license to provide pro bono legal services (beyond usual local qualification to practice law)?</p>	<p>No. There are no special licenses to provide pro bono legal services in Jordan.</p>
<p>4. Do foreign-qualified lawyers need any additional license to provide pro bono services (beyond their foreign qualification to practice law)?</p>	<p>Foreign-qualified lawyers may not practice Jordanian law or represent parties in Jordanian courts, although lawyers from Arab countries are permitted to practice law in Jordan on the basis of reciprocity². As such, foreign-qualified lawyers are limited in their ability to engage in pro bono legal work in Jordan, since they cannot appear before Jordanian courts or practice Jordanian law. However, foreign-qualified lawyers are permitted to advise Jordanian clients on matters of foreign or international law. There is a small number of international law firms who operate in Jordan in association with Jordanian law firms.</p>
<p>5. Are lawyers required by such rules to work a minimum number of pro bono hours? If so, how many?</p>	<p>No, lawyers are required by to work a minimum number of pro bono hours in Jordan.</p>
<p>6. Are aspiring lawyers required to complete a minimum number of hours of pro bono legal services to become licensed lawyers?</p>	<p>No, aspiring lawyers are not required to complete a minimum number of hours of pro bono legal services to become licensed lawyers.</p>

¹ JBA Law, Article 100.

² JBA Law, Article 9.

<p>7. Aside from mandatory targets (if any), are there aspirational pro bono hours targets for lawyers set by the local bar association, regulatory body or other body?</p>	<p>No, there are no aspirational pro bono hours targets for lawyers set by the Jordan Bar Association or other regulatory body.</p>
<p>8. Do lawyers receive any “Continuing Legal Education” (CLE) or equivalent credit for pro bono hours worked?</p>	<p>No, lawyers do not receive any “Continuing Legal Education” (CLE) or equivalent credit for pro bono hours worked.</p>
Insurance and advertising	
<p>9. Do lawyers need professional indemnity legal insurance cover for pro bono legal services they provide? Does the requirement differ for in-house lawyers?</p> <p>If insurance is required, can lawyers meet the requirement by working under the cover of another pro bono provider, e.g. in partnership with a private law firm or organization working on the same pro bono project?</p>	<p>No, lawyers do not need professional indemnity legal insurance cover for pro bono legal services they provide.</p>
<p>10. Are there any rules that limit or prohibit advertising of pro bono successes or soliciting new pro bono clients?</p>	<p>Yes, there are rules and ethical guidelines in Jordan that limit or prohibit the advertising of pro bono successes or the solicitation of new pro bono clients, though these restrictions are not specific to pro bono legal services.</p> <p>Pursuant to the JBA Law, lawyers in Jordan are generally prohibited from advertising their services in a commercial or promotional manner³. This includes promoting their successes, whether in pro bono or paid cases. Ethically, lawyers in Jordan must uphold the dignity of the profession and avoid any behavior that may appear commercialized or unprofessional, such as publicizing their successes for personal gain. These restrictions are in place to maintain the dignity and integrity of the legal profession, ensuring that legal services are not commercialized in a way that could undermine public trust.</p> <p>Whilst lawyers in Jordan may provide general information about their legal services through</p>

³ JBA Law, Article 60.

	professional websites, this must be done in a manner that adheres to the ethical standards and avoids “commercial publicization”.
Pro bono practice and culture	
11. What are the main areas of law which require or present opportunities for pro bono? What are the major unmet legal needs?	Please note that the provision of pro bono legal services by Jordanian lawyers is relatively uncommon in Jordan. Whilst several NGOs provide pro bono services to individuals in Jordan, currently it is not widely known main areas of law require pro bono or where there are any major unmet legal needs.
12. Who are the main providers of pro bono legal services?	Some of the local providers of pro bono legal services in Jordan are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Justice Center for Legal Aid (the “JCLA”)⁴. JCLA is a Jordanian not-for-profit and non-governmental organisation. JCLA has grown from one legal aid clinic in Amman to become the largest legal aid provider in Jordan, providing legal aid services at 21 clinics located across all 12 governorates. 2. The Tamkeen Centre for Legal Aid and Human Rights (“Tamkeen”)⁵ Tamkeen is an independent Jordanian non-governmental civil society organization that specializes in labor, migration and combating human trafficking. 3. The Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development (ARDD) has been the sole legal implementing partner of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Jordan. The ARDD–UNHCR partnership is centered on providing legal and protection-focused services to refugees and host communities across Jordan.⁶
13. Are there any noteworthy examples of how innovative technology or artificial intelligence is being used to enable	Jordan is still in the early stages of fully integrating innovative technology and artificial intelligence (AI) into the provision of legal

⁴ See <https://jcla-org.com/en/legal-services/> (last visited 10 September 2025).

⁵ See <https://tamkeen-jo.org/en> (last visited 10 September 2025).

⁶ https://ardd-jo.org/project/access-to-protection-and-legal-services-for-refugees-and-asylum-seekers-in-jordan/?utm_

<p>access to pro bono or otherwise as part of pro bono cases or matters?</p>	<p>services in general and pro bono services in specific.</p> <p>Jordan's National AI Strategy (2023–2027), spearheaded by the Ministry of Digital Economy and Entrepreneurship, focuses on enhancing AI skills, research, and infrastructure. It aims to establish ethical and legislative frameworks for AI use and encourages AI applications in public services, education, and key economic sectors. The strategy also emphasizes building governance and oversight structures involving public, private, and civil society actors. While it shapes the environment for AI adoption by lawyers and nonprofits, specific AI regulations for the legal sector are still developing.⁷</p>
<p>Sources of Pro Bono Opportunities and Key Contacts</p>	
<p>14. Describe notable sources of pro bono matters or resources in your jurisdiction.</p>	<p>The notable sources of pro bono matters are the Jordan Bar Association⁸ (which, at its discretion, assigns a lawyer to assist free of charge) and NGOs like those listed above.</p> <p>There are also global pro bono clearinghouses and legal services providers such as TrustLaw or PILnet⁹.</p>
<p>15. Is there any public or private organization with which a local or foreign lawyer can register to be made aware of pro bono opportunities?</p>	<p>Lawyers can voluntarily register with NGOs that provide pro bono legal services to be made aware of pro bono opportunities.</p>
<p>16. Are there any awards, lists or rankings related to pro bono work?</p>	<p>There are currently no awards, lists, or rankings specifically dedicated to recognizing pro bono legal work or the contributions of lawyers and law firms to pro bono services in Jordan.</p>

Acknowledgements

Name of Local Counsel: Ali Sharif Zu'bi Advocates & Legal Consultants

Name of Individual at Local Counsel: Badia T. Alwer

⁷ https://dig.watch/resource/jordanian-artificial-intelligence-strategy-and-implementation-plan-2023-2027?utm_source

⁸ <https://www.jba.org.jo/Default/Ar>

⁹ See <https://www.trust.org/trustlaw/> and <https://www.pilnet.org/> (last visited 10 September 2025).

Learn more

[Navigate the full Global Pro Bono Guide](#) to explore the global landscape and pro bono practices and opportunities across 100+ jurisdictions.