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Proposals Sought to Run Immigration Help Centers

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The state Office of Indigent Legal Services (ILS) is soliciting proposals from legal services providers interested in operating one of the six new regional immigration assistance centers around the state.

The offices will be funded with \$8.1 million over the next three years. The individual offices will get not more than \$450,000 for their operations in each of those years.

The ILS said it wants the centers to supply legal assistance to immigrants as well as training for indigent legal services providers to help them better represent noncitizen clients, particularly in the U.S. Supreme Court requirements in [Padilla v. Kentucky](#), 559 U.S. 356 (2010), on instructing immigrants on the implications of criminal proceedings on their residency status.

Regional centers will be established on Long Island, in New York City, the lower Hudson Valley and in northeastern, central and western parts of upstate, under the ILS plan.

A copy of the ILS request for proposals is available online at www.ils.ny.gov or can be requested via email through Karen.jackuback@ils.ny.gov. Applications must be received by the ILS no later than Nov. 19.

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