



Visiting the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center at the Hall of Justice

What is the Hall of Justice?

The Hall of Justice is the headquarters of Michigan's judicial branch of government.

There are courtrooms, offices, and the Learning Center.



What is the Learning Center?

The center is a place to learn about the judicial branch. It has exhibits like a museum. It can be a fun place to visit.





Arrival

Visitors enter the Hall of Justice on the side that faces the State Capitol. You can go up the steps or use the covered ramps at either end of the building. The steps and ramps all lead to the same sets of doors.

Entry

A tour guide greets groups.
The guide helps everyone
come inside in the right order.

Everyone uses quiet voices
when they are inside.



Security

Inside, a security officer checks bags and belongings to make sure everything is okay. Sometimes the security officer holds a scanner that checks a person's clothes too.





Rotunda

Everyone waits for the tour to start in a tall, round space called a rotunda. I can use my eyes to look around and my ears to listen. I can raise my hand to ask a question about what I see or hear.

Belongings

Inside the Learning Center, visitors leave their coats, bags, and food or drinks in the coat room.



Theater

Visitors sit on benches while the guide teaches everyone about the judicial branch of government.



Model Courtroom

In the Learning Center courtroom everyone has a role. Visitors pretend to be the judge, lawyers, witnesses, jurors, and the public.



Looking at Exhibits

Visitors may choose what else they would like to learn. They read. They play games. They press buttons gently to choose the best answer. They move carefully and walk slowly to find something new.

Sometimes it gets loud. I can go back to the theater where it is quieter. An adult can help me find another quiet place.



Restrooms

Restrooms are near the courtroom in the Learning Center. Visitors may use the restroom when everyone is looking at exhibits.





Supreme Court Courtroom

Some groups visit the Supreme Court courtroom. Everyone takes elevators up to the sixth floor and back down. They are quiet on the elevators.

Leaving

Visitors walk through gates to leave. The gates open and stay open when someone walks through. Then they go to the next place.



Schedule

Each tour is different, but a schedule might look like this.

It will be okay if my group does not spend time in all these places. The tour guide will show us the way.

I can be a flexible thinker if it takes more or less time in each place.



- Arrival – 5 minutes
- Rotunda and Security – 10 minutes
- Theater – 10 minutes
- Model Courtroom – 15 minutes
- Looking at Exhibits – 15 minutes
- Supreme Court Courtroom (optional) – 30 minutes
- Getting Belongings and Leaving – 5 minutes