

Hall of Justice

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT LEARNING CENTER

Educator Guide, 2018–2019



Are You Visiting Lansing?

Be sure to make the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center part of your field trip. Free, guided tours highlight:

- Three branches of government, especially the role and structure of the judicial branch
- U.S. Constitution and Michigan Constitution
- Other law-related topics upon request



Guided tours help visitors understand the judicial branch of government and how court decisions affect their everyday lives.

School Tours

The Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center – a hands-on gallery within the Hall of Justice – offers tours and events developed to engage students, grades 3 and up.

- One hour in length
- Groups up to 48, including chaperones
- Weekdays, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. (except court holidays)
- Free

To include the Michigan Supreme Court courtroom, you must specifically request this option when making reservations. Additional time is required. Courtroom visits cannot be guaranteed due to the Court's schedule.



The Hall of Justice is headquarters for the judicial branch of government. It houses the Michigan Supreme Court and Court of Appeals – District IV.

Call to schedule tours today!

517-373-7171

At courts.mi.gov/learningcenter

A Day in Court Games

- For desktop browsers at courts.mi.gov/dayincourt.
- Players learn more about the judicial branch of government, especially roles in a trial. Use pre-/post-visit or as a separate activity.

Educator Resources

- **Curriculum Resources** – Background information and lesson plans about the Michigan court system, constitutions, mock trials and other simulations, and career planning.
- **Educator E-newsletter** – Archive of issues for the seasonal e-newsletter at courts.mi.gov/justitia.
- **Field Trips** – Details about scheduling school tours.

Gallery of Exhibits

- Select exhibits and interactives.



Support for A Day in Court provided in part by the Michigan State Bar Foundation and the Michigan Supreme Court Historical Society Learning Center Fund

Online Videos

The Learning Center maintains a playlist of videos on the Michigan Supreme Court YouTube Channel.

- An overview of the school tour experience (3 min)
- A virtual tour of the Hall of Justice (7 min)
- An introduction to the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution (3 min)
- An explanation of the Michigan Supreme Court's decision-making process. (20 min)

1) Go to youtube.com/user/MichiganCourts/playlists

2) Click on Learning Center



Justitia E-Newsletter



Sign up for *Justitia*, the Learning Center's e-newsletter, by e-mailing LearningCenter-eNews@courts.mi.gov.

Intended for K–12 educators and others interested in resources about the judicial branch of government, the seasonal e-newsletter contains program announcements, brief readings on law-related topics, and recommended resources from a variety of sources for all grade levels.

An archive of issues is available at courts.mi.gov/Justitia.

Special Programs & Events

Law Day

Celebrate Law Day, **May 1, 2019**, at the Learning Center. This national event examines the theme Free Speech, Free Press, Free Society. Activities will highlight these First Amendment rights. Each tour will meet with a guest speaker and receive related curriculum materials. More information about the national event is at LawDay.org.



High School Moot Court

This experience, **July 15–19, 2019**, is for high school students interested in legal careers. Students act as attorneys and justices to argue a case as if before the Supreme Court. They meet with law students, lawyers, court staff, and members of the judiciary to prepare and to learn more about day-to-day life in the legal profession. Applications will be available March 1, 2019.



Student "attorneys" prepared to argue their case

Social Studies GLCEs/Content Expectations

Tours, programs, and resources of the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center are designed to encourage active participation as students learn about the purpose, structure, and role of government in their community, state, and nation.

Social Studies (K–8)

- Purposes of Government (C1)
- Values and Principles of American Government (C2)
- Structure and Functions of Government (C3)
- Roles of the Citizen (C5)

Civics (High School)

- Conceptual Foundations of Civic and Political Life (C1)
- Origins and Foundations of Government (C2)
- Government in the United States of America (C3)
- Citizenship in the United States (C5)
- Citizenship in Action (C6)

See courts.mi.gov/learningcenter for charts of specific curriculum standards.



To schedule school tours for 2018–2019, call 517-373-7171 today!

Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center
Hall of Justice
P.O. Box 30048
Lansing, MI 48909

Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center

courts.mi.gov/learningcenter

School Tours

Cost FREE!

Hours Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Call 517-373-7171



Location

Hall of Justice

925 W. Ottawa St. Lansing, MI 48915

*The Learning Center is near the **State Capitol** and the **Michigan History Museum** in downtown Lansing.*

