As a law student or practitioner, you may be asked to draft legal forms. Fortunately, there are numerous sources to consult for sample forms for use in legal and business transactions and in civil and criminal court proceedings. Generally, collections of forms are accompanied by extensive references to case and statutory law and sometimes by citations to law review articles, treatises, and practice materials. Editorial commentary is usually provided. Legal forms are published in a variety of formats: print, on CD-ROM, online via Westlaw and LexisNexis, and on the Internet.

Some forms are multi-jurisdictional in scope while other forms are for use in one particular jurisdiction. State-specific forms are often available in that state’s code (look under ‘Forms’ in the general index to the code) and in state treatises and practice materials. Sets of forms for use in practice before the federal courts are also available.

Legal forms for use in a specialized area of law practice may be found in a treatise or a loose-leaf service (e.g. tax). There are forms for motions and pleadings in civil and criminal litigation and even forms devoted to a phase of the litigation process (e.g. discovery).

Forms on the Internet may be free or require an access fee. Forms required by an organization or a governmental body may be accessible from its web site. Also, some law school and commercial web sites have links to collections of forms.

To locate forms in the Law Library’s collection, use the Library’s WebCatalog. Search words in the titles and contents of books by typing ‘forms’ and the legal subject area and/or jurisdiction desired. Also, the subject heading ‘forms’ will work to retrieve a listing of forms by subject and jurisdiction.

The following is a selected list of sources for legal forms:

**MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL FORMS: TRANSACTIONS**

*American Jurisprudence Legal Forms.* (2d ed. 1971-). KF170 .A542

This multi-volume set contains assorted forms for legal and business transactions. The forms are arranged by subjects corresponding to those contained in *American Jurisprudence 2d*. There are references to relevant cases and statutes, *American Law Reports* annotations,
West’s Key Number Digests, and legal periodicals. Available on Westlaw in the AMJUR-LF database.

Current Legal Forms with Tax Analysis. Jacob Rabkin and Mark H. Johnson. (1948-). KF170 .R3 1948-

In addition to the forms in this multi-volume set, there are detailed analyses of the tax implications of the transactions with references to the Internal Revenue Code and other tax publications. Available on LexisNexis path Legal> Secondary Legal> Matthew Bender> By Area of Law> Business Law> Rabkin & Johnson Current Legal Forms with Tax Analysis.

West’s Legal Forms. (1990-). KF170 .M7

This set is divided into several broad topics. Accompanying the forms are references to case and statutory law, law review articles, Corpus Juris Secundum, and West’s Key Number Digests. Available on Westlaw in the WEST-LF database.

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL FORMS:

LITIGATION

American Jurisprudence Pleading and Practice Forms Annotated. (1988-). KF8836 .A45 1988-

This set contains forms for use in civil and criminal litigation and in administrative proceedings. The forms are keyed to the substantive law in the legal encyclopedia American Jurisprudence 2d. References are to West’s Key Number Digests, American Law Reports annotations, and other legal publications. Available on Westlaw in the AMJUR-PP database.

Bender’s Forms of Discovery. (1963-). KF8900 .A3 B4

The sample interrogatories are organized by subject in this multi-volume set. The forms can be used for both federal and state practice. Available on LexisNexis path Legal> Secondary Legal> Matthew Bender> By Area of Law> General Practice> Bender’s Forms of Discovery.

Pattern Discovery series by Douglas Danner and Larry L. Varn. Titles in this series includes:


Accompanying the discovery forms are references to such publications as American Jurisprudence Legal Forms, American Jurisprudence 2d, American Jurisprudence Pleading and Practice, American Jurisprudence Trials, American Jurisprudence Proof of Facts, American Law Reports annotations, articles from law reviews and journals, and legal texts.
FEDERAL PRACTICE FORMS

*Bender’s Federal Practice Forms*. Louis R. Frumer and Marvin Waxner. (1951-). KF8836 .F78 1951-

Organized by rule number, there is extensive commentary on the rule in addition to the relevant form(s). Rules covered include the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Federal Rules of Evidence, the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, and the procedural rules promulgated for practice in other specialized federal courts. To find a form for a particular category of litigation, consult the accompanying subject index. Available on LexisNexis path Legal> Secondary Legal> Matthew Bender> By Area of Law> General Practice> Bender's Federal Practice Forms.


These forms with accompanying references are arranged by subject matter covering civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings in the federal courts. Available on Westlaw in the FEDPROF database.

*West’s Federal Forms*. (1952-). KF8836 .F4

Extensive commentary is provided to accompany these forms for use in federal practice. Companion set to Federal Practice and Procedure. Available on Westlaw in the FEDFORMS database.

SELECTED SPECIALIZED FORMS

Business:


Multi-volume set has forms and narrative on the organization of a firm, dispositions of businesses, dispositions of personal property, dispositions of real property, credit and financing, personal services, dispute resolution, computer contracts, and intellectual property transactions. This set also includes a section of "boilerplate" clauses. Available on LexisNexis path Legal> Secondary Legal> Matthew Bender> By Area of Law> General Practice> Warren's Forms of Agreement.

Estate Planning/Wills:

*Anderson’s Estate Planning Forms and Clauses*. (2d ed. 2000-). KF750 .S36 2000-

Single volume containing forms.

*Murphy’s Will Clauses: Annotations and Forms with Tax Effects*. Joseph Hawley Murphy et al. (1960-). KF755 .A6 M87 1960-

Multi-volume set with extensive explanatory text to accompany forms for estate planning and drafting wills. Available on LexisNexis (path is Legal> Secondary Legal> Matthew Bender> By Area of Law> Estate Planning> Murphy's Will Clauses: Annotations and Forms with Tax Effects).

Family Law:


Contents include sample forms for law office management, clients, interviews, complaints, discovery, marital dissolution agreements, alternate dispute resolution, trial, final decrees, petitions, motions, orders, consent orders, miscellaneous pleadings, letters, and premarital and post-marital agreements.
**Family Law and Practice.** Arnold H. Rutkin, ed. et al. (1985-). KF503.4 .F36

Multi-volume set with forms and commentary covering such topics as divorce proceedings, spousal and child support, child custody and visitation, paternity proceedings, and adoption procedures. Available on LexisNexis path Legal> Secondary Legal> Matthew Bender > By Area of Law>Family Law> Family Law and Practice.

**Federal Taxation:**


Two-volume set has forms and detailed explanations for corporate transactions. These transactions are corporate organizations, cash and stock dividends, stock redemptions, partial liquidations, complete liquidation, spin-offs, and tax-free reorganizations. Available on Westlaw in the WGL-CORPFORMS database.

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**FORMS ON THE INTERNET**


(last visited 03/01/2010)

Select from the home page "Forms and Publications" for federal tax forms and links to state tax forms.

*LLRX.com* ([http://www.llrx.com](http://www.llrx.com)) (last visited 03/01/2010)

Select from the home page the link for Court Rules, Forms & Dockets to access federal and state court forms.

*WashLaw Web* ([http://www.washlaw.edu/legalforms/index.html](http://www.washlaw.edu/legalforms/index.html)) (last visited 03/01/2010)

Contains links to forms archives, tax forms, state court forms, federal court forms, bankruptcy court forms, business registration forms, trademark forms, UCC forms, and workers’ compensation and department of labor forms for selected states.