

“Turning 18, Legal Issues in the Real World”

is designed to prepare students for the legal rights and responsibilities they will face when they turn 18. As a “legal” adult, they can vote and enter into contracts and marry without their parents’ consent. They will be treated as an adult in court and will therefore need to understand and obey the law. In our legal system, ignorance of the law is not an excuse. The program is provided free of charge to all schools in Washington County.

How to bring the Turning 18 Program to your school:

Contact the Washington County Bar Association at wcba@washcobar.org or 724-225-8345 to request a date. The program fits in well with a school’s end-of-year programming, particularly with any senior week activities. At least three weeks is suggested between the time you book the program and the confirmed program date and time. “Turning 18” can be scheduled for just one class period, for several class periods throughout the day, or as an all-school assembly for up to 1.5 hours. It can also be tailored to younger audiences. There is no charge to participating schools or students for the program or the 16-page guidebook, which is provided to each participating student.

How the program is facilitated:

An attorney or two and perhaps a financial/banking representative will be scheduled to present the program in-person or online. Presenters will cover topics from the 16-page “Turning 18” guidebook, which will be delivered to the school in advance or distributed the day of the program to participating students. Topics include Earning & Spending Money (credit cards, employment), Promises, Promises (contracts, consumer transactions, renting an apartment), Family Matters (marriage, children, divorce, Protection from Abuse), Crime and Punishment (underage drinking and DUIs, drug crimes, lifelong consequences of a criminal record, bullying and harassment, cyberbullying and “sexting,” wiretapping), and Citizenship (voting and selective service registration).

Turning 18



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Presented by the
Washington County Bar Association
& Washington County Bar Foundation

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