



FACT SHEET

WYOMING LEGISLATIVE SERVICE OFFICE

STATE COURT ELECTRONIC FILING

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by

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The following is a fifty-state survey of state courts that allow for or mandate the electronic filing (e-filing) of court documents. The survey only encompasses courts of general jurisdiction. In sum, most states have some form of e-filing. However, the extent to which each state allows for e-filing is quite varied, ranging from pilot programs to close to complete state-wide availability. Only sixteen states will have statewide e-filing in all appellate and trial courts, for both criminal and civil cases, by the end of the year. Please see the individual state summaries below for further detail.

Alabama

E-filing is available statewide to the public in Alabama at the supreme, appellate, and district-court (trial court) levels for both civil and criminal cases.¹ In Alabama, e-filing is mandatory for attorneys and optional for self-represented litigants.²

Alaska³

E-filing did not become available in Alaska until May of 2019. Currently, there are only five district courts (trial courts) that allow e-filing. E-filing is not mandatory as it is still in a pilot-program phase, but both civil and criminal cases may be e-filed.

Arizona⁴

In Arizona, e-filing is available at the supreme court, appellate court, and district court (trial court) level. E-filing is available to the public and is mandatory for attorneys, however, self-represented individuals are not required to use e-filing. Arizona's e-filing system is available statewide for both civil and criminal case types.

¹ <https://acis.alabama.gov/rules.pdf>

² <http://efile.alacourt.gov/media/1067/administrative-policies-and-procedures-8-26-2015.pdf>

³ <http://www.courts.alaska.gov/efiling/index.htm>

⁴ <https://www.azcourts.gov/efilinginformation/>

Arkansas

Arkansas is still in the process of creating a statewide e-filing system, so e-filing is not yet available statewide.⁵ E-filing is currently available for the supreme court, appellate courts, and twenty-one out of twenty-three circuit courts (trial courts)⁶ on a voluntary basis.⁷ E-filing in Arkansas is available to the public⁸ and covers both civil and criminal cases.⁹

California

E-filing in California is available to the public but is only available for certain superior courts (trial courts) and not available statewide.¹⁰ Each court varies on acceptance of civil or criminal case types, as well as whether e-filing is mandatory for attorneys.¹¹ E-filing is optional, however, for self-represented litigants.¹²

Colorado

Colorado offers e-filing in the supreme court, appellate courts, and certain district courts (trial courts).¹³ Both civil and criminal cases may be e-filed, but e-filing is not yet available statewide.¹⁴ E-filing is mandatory for attorneys in certain districts, but not yet available to the public.¹⁵

Connecticut

In Connecticut, e-filing is available at the supreme, appellate,¹⁶ and superior court (trial court)¹⁷ level depending on case type. Civil cases may be e-filed¹⁸ and e-filing is available statewide and to the public.¹⁹ Attorneys are required to use e-filing unless deemed exempt by the Chief Court Administrator, while self-represented litigants may choose to opt out of e-filing.²⁰

Delaware

E-filing is mandatory²¹ in Delaware and available for both civil and criminal cases at the supreme court, the court of chancery, and superior court (trial court) levels.²² Delaware's e-filing system is also available statewide and to the public.²³ Self-represented litigants may choose whether to use

⁵ <https://www.arcourts.gov/administration/acap/efile>

⁶ Supra.

⁷ <https://opinions.arcourts.gov/ark/supremecourt/en/item/421907/index.do?q=e-filing>

⁸ <https://www.arcourts.gov/sites/default/files/tree/eFiling%20Flyer%202016.pdf>

⁹ Email – Kyle Burton – Kyle.Burton@arcourts.gov

¹⁰ <http://www.odysseyfileca.com/faqs.htm>

¹¹ <http://www.odysseyfileca.com/active-courts.htm>

¹² https://www.courts.ca.gov/documents/supreme_court_of_california_rules_regarding_electronic_filing.pdf

¹³ <https://www.courts.state.co.us/Administration/Unit.cfm?Unit=efile>

¹⁴ Supra.

¹⁵ Email – Lindsay Gallegos – MyEfilng@judicial.state.co.us

¹⁶ https://www.jud.ct.gov/external/super/E-Services/efile/supapp/appellate_efiling_Inst.pdf

¹⁷ <https://www.jud.ct.gov/external/super/E-Services/efile/>

¹⁸ <https://www.jud.ct.gov/external/super/E-Services/e-standards.pdf>

¹⁹ https://www.jud.ct.gov/external/super/E-Services/efile/ATTY_FAQs.pdf

²⁰ Supra.

²¹ <https://courts.delaware.gov/supreme/docs/Efilingpressrelease120606.pdf>

²² <https://courts.delaware.gov/efiling/>

²³ Supra.

e-filing, but attorneys are required to use e-filing for the supreme court,²⁴ courts of chancery,²⁵ and superior courts.²⁶

Florida

Both civil and criminal case types can be e-filed in Florida at the supreme court, appellate court, and circuit court (trial court) level.²⁷ E-filing is available statewide and to the public and is mandatory for attorneys.²⁸

Georgia

Georgia's e-filing system is currently only available in seventeen superior courts (trial courts), as well as certain state and magistrate courts.²⁹ Both civil and criminal cases may be e-filed depending on the court, but e-filing is not yet available statewide.³⁰ Mandatory e-filing varies by jurisdiction, but self-represented litigants are not required to e-file.³¹

Hawaii

In Hawaii, e-filing is mandatory for attorneys and optional for self-represented litigants³² and is available at the supreme court, appellate courts, and both circuit and district courts (trial courts).³³ Hawaii's e-filing system is available statewide and to the public,³⁴ including both civil and criminal cases.³⁵

Idaho

E-filing in Idaho is available statewide and to the public for all civil cases at the appellate and district court levels.³⁶ While attorneys are required to use e-filing. Self-represented litigants may choose to opt out of e-filing.³⁷

Illinois

In Illinois, e-filing of civil cases is mandatory for the supreme, appellate, and circuit courts (trial courts), although self-represented litigants may choose to opt out of e-filing.³⁸ Criminal cases can also be e-filed depending on the jurisdiction.³⁹ The e-filing system in Illinois is available statewide and is available to the public.⁴⁰

²⁴ <https://courts.delaware.gov/supreme/docs/efilingrule102405.pdf>

²⁵ <https://courts.delaware.gov/chancery/docs/AdmProcAmd2003-1.pdf>

²⁶ https://courts.delaware.gov/superior/pdf/Administrative_Directive_2007-6.pdf

²⁷ E-mail – Heather Malloy – malloyh@flcourts.org

²⁸ <https://www.floridasupremecourt.org/content/download/240914/2130315/AOSC13-49.pdf>

²⁹ <http://www.odysseyefilega.com/active-courts.htm>

³⁰ Supra.

³¹ <http://www.odysseyefilega.com/FAQs.htm>

³² E-mail – Hawaii Court of Appeals – Appeals.COA@courts.hawaii.gov

³³ https://www.courts.state.hi.us/legal_references/efiling

³⁴ Supra, note 32.

³⁵ https://www.courts.state.hi.us/legal_references/efiling

³⁶ E-mail – Tyler Technologies – Efiling.support@tylertech.com

³⁷ <https://icourt.idaho.gov/efile-faqs>

³⁸ <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/>

³⁹ <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/active-courts.htm>

⁴⁰ <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/faqs.htm>

Indiana

Indiana's e-filing system is available statewide and mandatory for attorneys in the supreme court and appellate courts.⁴¹ By the end of 2019, e-filing will be mandatory for attorneys in all circuit courts (trial courts) as well, with self-represented litigants granted the option to use e-filing.⁴² Indiana's e-filing system is available to the public for both civil and criminal cases.⁴³

Iowa

E-filing in Iowa is available statewide to the public for both civil and criminal cases.⁴⁴ In Iowa, attorneys are required to e-file at the supreme, appellate, and district court (trial court) level, while self-represented defendants are permitted to provide an initial paper filing.⁴⁵

Kansas⁴⁶

In Kansas, e-filing is available at the supreme, appellate, and district court (trial court) levels, and is mandatory for attorneys to use. Both civil and criminal cases can be e-filed and the Kansas e-filing system is available statewide. E-filing is not available to the public, however, therefore self-represented litigants must file by paper.

Kentucky

E-filing is available statewide in Kentucky, but only for circuit and district (trial) courts.⁴⁷ Kentucky's e-filing system is not available to the public and is not mandatory for attorneys or self-represented litigants to use.⁴⁸ At the trial-court level, however, both civil and criminal cases can be e-filed.⁴⁹

Louisiana

E-filing is not mandatory in Louisiana,⁵⁰ nor is it available to the public.⁵¹ The availability of e-filing portals also varies across jurisdictions in Louisiana. Currently, the service is only available for the supreme court,⁵² three circuit courts of appeal, and two district courts.⁵³ Three Parish clerk of court offices offer individual e-filing portals as well.⁵⁴ Both civil and criminal cases may be e-filed in Louisiana, depending on court jurisdiction.⁵⁵

⁴¹ <https://www.in.gov/judiciary/files/order-other-2015-94S00-1511-MS-640.pdf>

⁴² <https://www.in.gov/judiciary/4273.htm>

⁴³ https://www.in.gov/judiciary/rules/trial_proc/index.html#_Toc530578492

⁴⁴ <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/ACO/CourtRulesChapter/16.pdf>

⁴⁵ Supra.

⁴⁶ E-mail – Lisa Taylor – taylorl@kscourts.org

⁴⁷ E-mail – Patrick Abell – patrickabell@kycourts.net

⁴⁸ Supra.

⁴⁹ https://kycourts.gov/courts/supreme/Rules_Procedures/201811.pdf

⁵⁰ <https://cdx.lasc.org/Public%20Documents/COURTRULES/RULE%20XLII.pdf>

⁵¹ <https://cdx.lasc.org/Home/FAQ>

⁵² <https://cdx.lasc.org/>

⁵³ <http://efile-la.com/>

⁵⁴ Supra.

⁵⁵ <https://cdx.lasc.org/Public%20Documents/FAQ/CDX%20User%20Documentation.pdf>

Maine⁵⁶

E-filing in Maine will not be available until late 2020.

Maryland

E-filing in Maryland is mandatory for attorney-use in twenty-one counties,⁵⁷ but will not be available statewide until 2021.⁵⁸ E-filing is also available to the public in those counties, but is not mandatory for self-represented litigants.⁵⁹ Maryland's e-filing system allows filings for the supreme, appellate, and circuit court (trial court) levels for both civil and criminal cases.⁶⁰

Massachusetts⁶¹

The Massachusetts court system offers e-filing in their district and appellate courts statewide, as well as the state supreme court. For the supreme court, e-filing is permissive for everyone, unless otherwise ordered by the court. E-filing in the appellate court is mandatory for attorneys, but only for certain types of filing. Other types of filing are voluntary for attorneys and self-represented litigants. Finally, e-filing is permissive (not mandatory) in the trial courts, but highly recommended for certain types of cases.⁶²

Michigan

In September of 2018, Michigan began requiring that for courts with e-filing available, all attorneys must e-file,⁶³ and self-represented litigants have the option to e-file but are not required to do so. The state is just beginning a several-year long 'e-filing initiative' to implement statewide e-filing for all case types.⁶⁴ As of September 6th, 2019, the Michigan supreme court, court of appeals, and several state trial courts (district and circuit) utilize e-filing through the same online system. In 2018, the e-filing pilot courts (the 3rd, 6th, 13th, 16th and 20th circuits) adopted mandatory e-filing as model courts for the Michigan e-filing initiative.⁶⁵ Over the course of the next several years, e-filing will be implemented in the remaining courts across the state of Michigan.⁴

Minnesota

Minnesota began their e-filing rollout in 2012 and now have a complete, statewide e-filing system. As of 2016, attorneys, court reporters, executive branch records managers, and court appointed examiners are required to e-file in all appellate and supreme court cases, while self-represented parties have the option but are not required.⁶⁶ For district courts, e-filing is mandatory in all 87 Minnesota counties.⁶⁷

⁵⁶ E-mail – Beth Maddaus – beth.maddaus@courts.maine.gov

⁵⁷ <https://www.courts.state.md.us/mdec/efilingatty>

⁵⁸ <https://www.courts.state.md.us/mdec/efilingattyfaqs>

⁵⁹ <https://www.courts.state.md.us/mdec/efilingpublic>

⁶⁰ <https://mdcourts.gov/sites/default/files/import/mdec/pdfs/rulestitle20.pdf>

⁶¹ <https://www.mass.gov/appeals-court-rules/appeals-court-standing-order-concerning-electronic-filing>

⁶² <http://www.efilema.com/active-courts.htm>

⁶³ MCR 1.109.(G)(3)(f); <https://courts.michigan.gov/Administration/admin/Documents/MiFILE/MiFILEBrief3.pdf>

⁶⁴ <https://courts.michigan.gov/Courts/trialcourts/mifile/courtclerkinformation/Pages/e-FilingRolloutStrategy.aspx>

⁶⁵ <https://courts.michigan.gov/Administration/admin/Documents/MiFILE/MiFILECourtList.pdf>

⁶⁶ <http://www.mncourts.gov/Clerk-of-Appellate-Courts.aspx>

⁶⁷ <http://www.mncourts.gov/File-a-Case/File-in-A-District-Trial-Court.aspx>

Mississippi

In conjunction with the Mississippi electronic courts project (started in 2005), e-filing is still in the process of being implemented statewide. As of August 2019, e-filing is permitted in the state supreme and appellate courts for registered attorneys only.⁶⁸ E-filing has also been made available in 25 counties' circuit courts, which are the trial courts in the state of Mississippi.⁶⁹

Missouri⁷⁰

The state of Missouri has statewide mandatory e-filing for the supreme court, courts of appeals, chancery courts, and all circuit (trial) courts. The system was completed in June of 2016.

Montana⁷¹

Montana began their statewide electronic filing and document management project in 2007 and now have e-filing enabled for all supreme court cases and for some district courts. As of August 27th, 2019, e-filing is not yet available for use by self-represented litigants in any court.

Nebraska⁷²

Nebraska offers statewide e-filing for attorneys registered and in good standing with the Nebraska State Bar. For trial and appellate courts, registration for e-filing is mandatory for Nebraska attorneys. E-filing is available for all case types as long as the case has been created in the trial court case management system. New civil cases may be initiated through e-filing in the district courts. New criminal case filing is available for county attorneys.

Nevada⁷³

Nevada offers e-filing for both criminal and civil supreme court cases. Only attorneys admitted to practice law in Nevada may e-file with the Nevada supreme court. Some Nevada district courts utilize e-filing, while others do not.

New Hampshire⁷⁴

New Hampshire mandates e-filing for all cases (civil and criminal) in their district, superior, and supreme courts, unless otherwise exempted by rule. Both attorneys and self-represented parties may e-file in trial courts, whereas only attorneys are permitted to e-file with the supreme court.

New Jersey⁷⁵

New Jersey is working on implementing a consolidated statewide e-filing system. Currently, both criminal and civil cases may be e-filed, with few exceptions, in the state superior court (trial courts). E-filing is also available for appellate cases. The judiciary plans to fully implement e-filing in all trial court divisions. Only attorneys are authorized to e-file.

⁶⁸ https://courts.ms.gov/research/rules/msrulesofcourt/Appellate_Efiling_Procedures_w_Hyperlinks.pdf

⁶⁹ <https://courts.ms.gov/mec/mec.php>

⁷⁰ <https://www.courts.mo.gov/page.jsp?id=46524>

⁷¹ <https://courts.mt.gov/portals/189/efile/docs/crt-policy.pdf>

⁷² <https://supremecourt.nebraska.gov/e-services/efiling>

⁷³ <https://www.leg.state.nv.us/courtrules/NEFCR.html>

⁷⁴ <https://www.courts.state.nh.us/nh-e-court-project/electronic-services.htm>

⁷⁵ <https://www.njcourts.gov/attorneys/assets/ecourts/ecourtsfaq.pdf?c=kFY>

New Mexico

A statewide e-filing service is currently underway in New Mexico. Attorneys both in and out of state are authorized to e-file. E-filing is available in the district courts, but it is up to each district court to determine whether to mandate e-filing.⁷⁶ Both civil and criminal matters may be e-filed, with a few specific exemptions.¹⁶ E-filing is mandatory for most new and pending cases in the supreme court.⁷⁷ As of August 2017, e-filing is mandatory for all new and pending cases in the court of appeals.⁷⁸

New York⁷⁹

New York permits e-filing in the appellate and supreme courts, but not the trial courts. Both attorneys and self-represented parties may e-file, for both civil and criminal matters.

North Carolina⁸⁰

E-filing is available to registered attorneys for the North Carolina supreme court and court of appeals. Only some counties have e-filing in their trial courts and for civil matters only.

North Dakota

North Dakota requires attorneys to e-file for supreme court cases and highly encourages self-representatives to do the same.⁸¹ E-filing is also available in the district courts, for both criminal and civil matters.⁸²

Ohio

Ohio's e-filing system is currently available in the court of claims, supreme court,⁸³ and crime victims compensation case types, but not for the trial courts.⁸⁴ Both attorneys and non-attorney/self-represented litigants are permitted to e-file, but it is not mandated.¹⁶

Oklahoma

In 2012, a limited e-filing initiative allowed e-filing in a few district courts ('pilot courts'), with the intent for more to follow.⁸⁵ The Oklahoma supreme court ruled that each district court may elect to utilize traditional or electronic filing.⁸⁶ Additionally, attorneys may e-file in the supreme court and court of appeals for both civil and criminal matters, although it is not uniform, nor required.⁸⁷

Oregon

⁷⁶ <https://laws.nmonesource.com/w/nmos/Rule-Set-1-NMRA>

⁷⁷ <https://supremecourt.nmcourts.gov/-electronic-filing-.aspx>

⁷⁸ <https://coa.nmcourts.gov/e-filing.aspx>

⁷⁹ <https://iapps.courts.state.ny.us/nyscef/HomePage>

⁸⁰ <https://www.ncappellatecourts.org/>

⁸¹ <https://www.ndcourts.gov/supreme-court/filing>

⁸² <https://www.ndcourts.gov/district-courts/e-filing-portal>

⁸³ <https://www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/Clerk/eFiling/>

⁸⁴ <http://www.efileoh.com/>

⁸⁵ <http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/DeliverDocument.asp?CiteID=466069>

⁸⁶ <http://www.oscn.net/applications/oscn/DeliverDocument.asp?CiteID=471091>

Oregon has e-filing for all counties and courts, including trial, appellate, and supreme courts.⁸⁷ Self-represented litigants may e-file in Oregon as of 2015, and active members of the Oregon state bar must e-file (effective December of 2014).⁸⁸

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania has e-filing available in both of their appellate courts (commonwealth and superior courts), with the intent of unification under a single filing system. Only registered attorneys may e-file.⁸⁹ E-filing is also accepted for supreme court cases. Six counties' trial courts and one district court currently accept e-filing.⁹⁰

Rhode Island⁹¹

Rhode Island has comprehensive statewide e-filing for trial courts. Civil cases in the superior (trial court) and district courts⁹² are required to be e-filed. Self-represented litigants and other third parties may electronically file but are not required to do so. It is unclear whether Rhode Island has yet to expand e-filing to its supreme court.

South Carolina⁹³

South Carolina is in the midst of an e-filing pilot program to implement e-filing statewide in its trial courts. Currently, all but one of 46 counties have e-filing available for common pleas in trial courts, with one county pending (effective October 21, 2019). The rules state that all filings in civil cases shall be e-filed by an attorney, with few exceptions or exclusions.

South Dakota⁹⁴

South Dakota requires e-filing for all civil cases in circuit court (trial court). Criminal cases must also be e-filed except for the initial pleading or documents exempted by rules or court order. E-filing is mandatory for attorneys whereas self-represented litigants may file electronically but are not required to.

Tennessee⁹⁵

Tennessee allows attorneys to e-file all new cases in appellate courts. E-filing operations began in 2018 and will initially be voluntary and only available to attorneys. Pro se parties will not be allowed to file electronically and will continue to file in paper. In addition, two county circuit courts use an e-filing system.

⁸⁷ https://www.courts.oregon.gov/services/online/Documents/eFile/OJD-eFiling-Policy_Webpost.pdf

⁸⁸ <https://www.courts.oregon.gov/services/online/Documents/eFile/OdysseyFileandServeFAQ.pdf>

⁸⁹ <https://ujsportal.pacourts.us/refdocuments/judicialorder.pdf>

⁹⁰ https://fjdefile.phila.gov/efsfjd/zk_fjd_prvt_efile_00.secured_logon/

⁹¹ <https://www.courts.ri.gov/efiling/Pages/default.aspx>

⁹² The superior and district courts have concurrent jurisdiction depending on the amount in controversy.

⁹³ <https://www.sccourts.org/courtReg/displayRule.cfm?ruleID=2.0&subRuleID=&ruleType=EFL>

⁹⁴ <https://ujs.sd.gov/media/odyssey/scrule13-12.pdf>

⁹⁵ <https://www.tncourts.gov/E-Filing>

Texas⁹⁶

In 2015, Texas implemented statewide e-filing for all civil matters in appellate, probate, district and county courts. In 2016, the Court of Criminal Appeals expanded the project to mandate e-filing in criminal cases. All 254 counties in Texas, the Supreme Court, and Courts of Appeals will have mandatory e-filing implemented on a graduated schedule through January 1, 2020.

Utah⁹⁷

E-filing is available to attorneys in district courts for all matters. Attorneys that file civil, probate and criminal cases must e-file. Additionally, the Utah Supreme Court and Court of Appeals allow documents to be filed by e-mail.

Vermont⁹⁸

Vermont has a supreme court and a superior court (trial court) that is divided into fourteen units, one in each county. E-filing in Vermont was introduced in the superior court in 2010. E-filing is mandatory for attorneys in new civil cases in two of the superior court units. Pro se litigants have the option of e-filing or paper filing in those divisions.

Virginia⁹⁹

Each city and county in Virginia have a circuit court. Virginia has an e-filing system available for most civil cases in thirty-five of its circuit courts (trial courts). The system is for use by members of the Virginia State Bar and their designated staff members. Three county circuit courts in Virginia have their own separate e-filing systems.

Washington¹⁰⁰

Washington State allows e-filing in the supreme and appellate courts for trial court staff and those registered to use the system. In addition, six individual counties in Washington have individual e-filing systems at the trial court level.

West Virginia¹⁰¹

West Virginia's e-filing system plans to allow for e-filing and case management in all circuit courts (trial courts). Currently, the state is refining the e-filing system in four pilot counties. A full statewide implementation is expected to be completed by 2020.

Wisconsin¹⁰²

The Wisconsin Supreme Court approved a gradual transition to mandatory e-filing in circuit courts (trial courts) and its appellate court. Over the course of approximately two years, mandatory e-filing was enabled for cases including civil and criminal cases across the state and will continue to expand, including more case types and class codes over time.

⁹⁶<https://efiletexas.gov/>

⁹⁷ <https://www.utcourts.gov/efiling/district/>

⁹⁸<https://www.vermontjudiciary.org/about-vermont-judiciary/electronic-access/electronic-filing>

⁹⁹ <http://www.courts.state.va.us/online/vjefs/home.html>

¹⁰⁰ <https://ac.courts.wa.gov/content/help/diFilingInstructions.pdf>

¹⁰¹ <http://www.courts.wv.gov/e-file/>

¹⁰² <https://wicourts.gov/ecourts/efilecircuit/index.jsp>

Wyoming¹⁰³

E-filing is mandatory for all Wyoming State Bar members filing in the Wyoming Supreme Court. Presently, only members of the Wyoming State Bar may register to file electronically. E-filing by self-represented parties may be a future enhancement to the case management system. E-filing is not available in the district courts or circuit courts.

If you need any further assistance on this matter, please do not hesitate to reach out to LSO Research at 777-7881.

¹⁰³ <https://www.courts.state.wy.us/supreme-court/clerk-of-court-efile/efiling/>