

Ireland

Source Information

[Practice Note, Third-Party Litigation Funding: Overview \(Ireland\)](#) and [Litigation Funding Options: Checklist \(Ireland\)](#)

Law stated as at 01 June 2026 ([Julie Murphy-O'Connor](#) and Emma Trainor, Matheson LLP)

What method of funding do litigating parties use most commonly?

Self-funding

Litigation is generally self-funded in Ireland. In rare cases, after the event insurance is used. No foal no fee is commonly used in personal injury cases, but rarely in commercial cases.

While professional "for profit" third-party litigation funding arrangements are currently unlawful in Ireland, third parties who have a legitimate interest in proceedings, such as shareholders or creditors of a company involved in proceedings, can lawfully fund these proceedings, even if they only indirectly benefit from them.

Are conditional or contingency fee agreements considered legally valid?



Arrangements through which payment of fees is contingent on the success of the case are legally permissible. However, charging fees by reference to a percentage of damages awarded is prohibited.

Can litigation costs and legal expenses be insured?



The High Court case of [Greenclean Waste Management v Leahy \[2014\] IEHC 314](#) confirmed that after the event insurance is permitted in Ireland.

Is there a legal provision for free legal aid for eligible litigating parties?



The Legal Aid Board provides civil legal advice and representation to people who cannot afford to pay for a solicitor. Under section 29 of the [Civil Legal Aid Act 1995 \(as amended\)](#), to qualify for civil legal aid, an applicant must satisfy financial eligibility requirements and pay a contribution towards the legal costs, unless the contribution obligation has been waived based on the applicant's financial resources. Certain areas of law, such as defamation, conveyancing, and property disputes, are also excluded.

The development of the civil legal aid system has been identified by the Chief Justice of Ireland as a key target towards increasing access to justice for claimants who may not currently be eligible for civil legal aid. A working group, the Civil Legal Aid Review Group, has been established for this purpose. Its review of the Civil Legal Aid Scheme, published in July 2025, sets out various recommendations.

Are there any other available methods to fund litigation?



Not currently.