

## **How much does it cost to apply for Probate?**

Our Firm supports the ICAEW's best practice of price and service transparency.

We offer an initial, no obligation consultation where we will discuss and assess the level of support that you need. Following that meeting, we will provide you with a fee estimate and timeline setting out the steps and expected costs. We will also highlight any aspects which might either cause delay or add to the cost of the application and or administration.

Fees charged are on a time incurred basis. Each case will be different, and the cost will depend upon the value and complexity of the estate.

Fees charged may vary in accordance with any one or more of the following circumstances:

- Whether there is a surviving spouse or civil partner
- If there is a will and its whereabouts are known
- If there are any executors to the will, and if so, how many are there
- If the deceased granted a power of attorney to anyone
- If anyone was financially supported by the deceased at the time of their death
- How many beneficiaries there are
- The type and number of any bank or building society accounts
- Whether there are any private pension arrangements
- Whether there are any securities such as gifts, bonds or unit trusts
- If there are any assets held offshore
- The value of any property and its occupation
- Whether the estate is taxable
- The value of any gifts given within seven years before the death of the deceased
- If separate probate will be required to administer assets held overseas in a foreign jurisdiction

As a guide, our fees for administering a simple, straightforward estate of a deceased and assisting with probate, are in the region £2,000 plus VAT. Fees for the administration of a more complex estate and assisting with probate can rise to £10,000 plus VAT.

Our probate team members hourly rates are as follows;

- Probate Partner: £150 plus VAT
- Probate Manager: £100 plus VAT
- Probate Administrative Assistant: £50 plus VAT

## **Court costs**

You may have to pay a fee to apply for probate. Whether you need to pay depends on the value of the estate. If the value of the estate is over £5,000, the application fee is £273. There is also a cost of £1.50 for each additional copy of the grant that you require. There's no fee if the estate is £5,000 or less.

## **Other third-party costs**

Other costs that might need to be considered during the whole probate administration process might include:

- Insurance and other costs of security estate property
- Specialist valuation fees
- Conveyancing and estate agent fees if dealing with property
- Statutory Notice fees, including notices to creditors
- Bankruptcy search fees

### **Timeline**

We will keep you advised of progress throughout our engagement but typically we would aim to complete the Grant application within three months.

The full administration of a straightforward estate would typically take between 6 and 12 months to finalise. More complex cases may take longer, particularly if there are property interests to be sold.