

Fees for application for Grant of Probate only - estate subject to Inheritance Tax

We can help you through this difficult process by obtaining the Grant of Probate on your behalf.

How much does this service cost?

We anticipate this will take between 7 and 10 hours of work at an average rate of £211.50 (plus VAT*) per hour depending on the seniority of the person carrying out the work. Our total costs are estimated to be between £1,480.50 to £2,115.00 plus VAT*. A very experienced Solicitor would charge as much as £296 (plus VAT*) per hour whereas assistant lawyers might be as little as £140 (plus VAT*) per hour. When you come to see us we will tell you exactly who will do the work and what they will charge.

As part of our fee, it will include:

- An appointment to meet with one of our dedicated and experienced lawyers to work on your matter;
- An identification of the legally appointed executors or administrators;
- Accurately identifying the type of Probate application you will require;
- Reviewing the details of the assets and liabilities in the estate as provided by you;
- Completing the HM Revenue & Customs full Inheritance Tax account - Form IHT400 and supporting schedules;
- Preparing the application for Grant of Probate, including preparing the legal statement for Executor(s);
- Arranging for the executor(s) to sign the legal statement for Executor(s) and sign Form IHT400;
- Submitting the application to the Probate Registry;
- Submitting form IHT400 and supporting schedules to HM Revenue & Customs;
- Arranging payment of the inheritance tax liability;
- Forwarding the Probate Summary receipted by HM Revenue & Customs to the District Probate Registry;
- Forwarding the Grant of Probate and any additional copies to the executor(s) to allow them to continue with the administration of the estate.

By virtue of Anti-Money Laundering Regulations and SRA Standards and Regulations, we are required to verify your identity and the integrity of the assets which may be the subject of your transaction. We will make a charge of £20 plus VAT for each person for whom such checks are required. This includes a direct cost to us for this service of between £8 and £14 (depending on the circumstances and the provider used) and a small charge to cover administration and advice. Please note that if you reside abroad then the charge will be higher and will be based on where you reside.

The above fee does not include contacting the various asset holders to seek formal probate valuations or to ascertain the liabilities in the estate. We will rely on you to provide this information. The fee also does not include us contacting the beneficiaries named in the Will.

Document last updated: April 2023

Third-party payments also payable include:

- Probate court fee of £273
- Additional copies of the Grant of Probate fee £1.50 per copy
- £91.00 plus VAT* (£109.20 in total) to place a S27 Trustee Notice in the London Gazette - Protects against unexpected claims from unknown creditors.
- £131.59 plus VAT* (£157.91 in total) to place a S27 Trustee Notice in a Local Newspaper (this price is for the Wirral Globe, prices for other papers may vary) - this also helps to protect against unexpected claims.

We handle the payment of these payments on your behalf to ensure a smoother process.

On average, an instruction to apply for Grant of Probate where Inheritance Tax is payable can be dealt with within five to eight months.

(*Current VAT rate is 20%)