

Applying for the grant only – estates of more than £650,000

We anticipate this will take between five and seven hours' work. We estimate that the total cost will be between £3,000 and £3,500 (+VAT). The hourly rate of the person dealing with your matter will depend on their experience. These rates are set out below:

Partner	Up to £450 (+VAT)
Senior Solicitor	£350 (+VAT)
Senior Associate	£350 (+VAT)
Associate	£325 (+VAT)
Solicitor	£300 (+VAT)
Legal Executive	£275 (+VAT)
Paralegal	£190 (+VAT)
Support Staff	£145 (+VAT)

The exact cost will depend on the individual circumstances of the matter. For example, if there are few bank accounts and no property, costs will be at the lower end of the range. If there are multiple exempt and non-exempt beneficiaries, a property and multiple bank accounts, costs will be at the higher end.

Disbursements not included in this fee:

- Probate Application fee of £300 (VAT not applicable).
- Other disbursements, such as statutory advertisements and asset searches, may be necessary but will depend on the circumstances and costs vary.

Disbursements are costs related to your matter that are payable to third parties, such as court fees. We handle the payment of any disbursements on your behalf to ensure a smoother process. VAT may or may not be applicable depending on the disbursement, but we will inform you whether or not a disbursement is VAT applicable should this be necessary.

Potential additional costs:

- If the estate consists of any share holdings (stocks and bonds) or a significant amount of other assets, there are likely to be additional costs that could range significantly depending on the estate and how it is to be dealt with.
- If you do not provide us with the initial Inheritance Tax payable on delivery of the account.

- If the reduced rate of Inheritance Tax due to charitable gifts of more than 10% of the estate applies.
- If there is Agricultural or Business Property Relief to be claimed.
- If there are any other reliefs, such as double taxation or successive charges relief, to be claimed.
- If any additional copies of the grant are required, they will cost £1.50p (VAT not applicable). One per asset is usually required.
- Dealing with the sale or transfer of any property in the estate is not included.

How long will this take?

Typically, obtaining the grant of probate takes up to 16 weeks on the basis that you provide us with accurate values for the assets and liabilities of the estate at the initial meeting.

As part of our fee we will:

- Provide you with a dedicated and experienced Probate lawyer to work on your matter.
- Identify the legally appointed executors or administrators and beneficiaries.
- Accurately identify the type of Probate Application you will require.
- Obtain the relevant documents required to make the Application.
- Complete the Probate Application and the relevant HMRC forms.
- Drafting a Legal Statement of Truth for you to sign as required by the Probate Court
- Make the application to the Probate Court on your behalf.
- Obtain the Probate and securely send copies to you.

You will then be able to deal with the remaining issues of the estate, including payment of tax, collecting in assets, settling liabilities and distributing the estate.