



Pricing

Probate & Estate Administration

Although the order of work required in applying for and obtaining probate and administering the estate is essentially the same in all cases, each person's estate is unique and the costs involved will depend on various factors, such as the types of assets held, completeness of records and the number of beneficiaries.

We charge on a time-spent basis, rather than using a percentage value of the estate. Our hourly rates depend on the experience of the person working on the case, but currently these range from £80 to £280 per hour, plus VAT.

We are happy to offer a grant-only service or a full probate and estate administration service, depending on what you require.

The following is a guide to our fees; however, we will always discuss with you at the outset the work required and our expected costs.

Scenario 1:

Obtaining a grant of probate

£3,000 to £5,000 plus VAT

- The deceased was a widow
- There is a valid, non-contested will

- There is one daughter, who is named as the sole executor and beneficiary of the will
- The total value of the estate is £600,000, which is comprised of the deceased's main residence worth £400,000 and £200,000 held in bank accounts
- Other than utility bills and a credit card balance, no other debts were owed by the deceased
- Due to the inheritance tax nil rate bands available, there is no IHT due

Scenario 2:

Full administration of the estate, including obtaining the grant of probate

£10,000 to £15,000 plus VAT

- The deceased was a widower
- There is a valid, non-contested will
- There are two children, both named as executors of the will
- The value of the deceased's estate is £1,500,000, which comprises the deceased's main residence and a UK holiday cottage, a managed investment portfolio, various UK bank accounts and a bank account in Spain.



- The only debts owed by the estate are utility bills and an overpayment on the deceased's occupational pension
- There are legacies to two friends and a charity.
- The residuary estate passes to the two children.

Other costs

- Probate Registry fee: £155
- Additional copies of grant at time of application: £1.50 each
- HM Land Registry copy title deeds: usually £3 each
- Statutory notices under S.27 for unknown creditors: approx. £100 to £200 plus VAT

There may be other third-party costs involved, for example legal fees for transferring property into the names of the beneficiaries, notarising documents where required for foreign assets, and we will let you know about these as the estate administration progresses.

Timescales

Whilst the timescales involved depend on a number of factors, such as the complexity of the estate, how quickly information can be obtained and the Probate Registry's workload, as a guide we would usually expect Scenario 1 above to take around 3 to 4 months, with Scenario 2 taking between 6 and 12 months to deal with.

Contact us

As advised above, we always recommend an initial discussion to discuss how we can help and our likely fees for the work. You can be confident that we will provide an efficient service, taking as much of the administrative burden away from you as possible.

If you would like to have an initial discussion with us, at no cost to you, about how we can help, please contact **Mark Howard** at mark.howard@charter-tax.com or **Jane Hodge** at jane.hodge@charter-tax.com or call us on **01580 313108**.

CHARTER TAX CONSULTING LIMITED

Suite 1, Bedgebury Business Park
Forge Farm
Goudhurst
Kent TN17 2QZ
+44 (0)1580 313108
www.charter-tax.com