



Renaissance Legal

Probate and Estate Administration Services

Our Charges

Our rates

Our average rate for probate and estate administration work is £3,500 plus VAT, making a total of £4,200 plus any disbursements (see below).

This is based on work we have undertaken for clients over the last three years, where the average estate value has been £380,000 (gross).

A typical scenario would be:

A person has died and they have left a Will. The Will leaves everything to family and charities. The estate is worth £380k and there is a small amount of Inheritance Tax to pay.

Notes on price

VAT is charged at HMRC's standard rate here: <https://www.gov.uk/vat-rates>

Disbursements for this type of work are likely to include:

- Bankruptcy search fees - £1 per beneficiary at the commencement of the case and a further £1 on each distribution of assets;
- Probate Registry fee when applying for the Grant of Probate - £155; and
- Probate Registry fee for each office copy of the Grant of Probate is £1.50.

These disbursements are all exempt from VAT.

Inheritance Tax may be applicable, which is payable on top of our fees and the above disbursements. Further information, including rates and various calculator tools, are available at HMRC here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/hmrc-tools-and-calculators#inheritance-tax-and-bereavement>

There are a number of other online resources such as [Legal Choices](#) which provide additional information on Inheritance Tax and the probate process.

The average cost outlined above is not necessarily the price you will be charged. It is based on a scenario of the work we have undertaken of this kind over the past three years.

What services are included in this rate

- Assisting in obtaining values of the estate's assets and liabilities;
- Completing the forms to apply for a Grant of Representation. The forms are an HMRC Inheritance Tax return (needed even if there is no Inheritance Tax to pay) and an application to the Probate Registry;
- Obtaining the Grant of Representation;

- Liaising with the beneficiaries of the estate;
- Assisting in claiming the estate's assets and liabilities;
- Dealing with an Income Tax return for the period to date of death and for the administration period; and
- Drafting Estate Accounts and assisting in making distributions.

Key stages and likely timescales

- Getting together all of the assets and liability information – 2-4 months;
- Paying Inheritance Tax getting the Grant of Representation – 3-6 months;
- Calling in the assets and paying liabilities – 4-10 months; and
- Distributing the estate – 4-12 months.

Factors that may increase the cost

When you instruct us, we will provide you with a written outline of what your case will cost. Provided that we have all of the necessary information from you in advance, that price will be what you are charged. There are some factors, such as complex Inheritance Tax issues, which may mean your estimate is higher than the average which we have outlined above.

Equally, if you instruct us and then different, or unexpected issues arise, for example finding out that there are additional assets that you were not aware of initially, then we may need to review your estimate as the amount of time we will spend on your case might increase.

Why we're different

Unlike some other firms, we do not charge you based on what the estate is worth. Regardless of the value of the estate, we charge for the work that we do and the time that we spend. We do not charge a percentage value of the estate as we do not feel that this is fair to our clients.

Our team

Our probate and estate administration team comprise of three fee earners (two Solicitors and a Chartered Legal Executive) with a combined experience of more than 70 years. They are supported by two Paralegals. The team is supervised by Philip Warford, Managing Director.

How Renaissance Legal help?

Our services cover the entire process of administering and dealing with a person's estate, including applying for a Grant of Representation, dealing with Inheritance Tax issues and distributing assets. We are also able to help if you have been appointed as an Executor of an estate of someone who has died recently and want to know what your responsibilities are.

In other situations, our lawyers are appointed as executors of an estate themselves, which can be extremely beneficial as we are well-placed to provide a sensitive and independent view of any issues or complexities that may surround the estate.

If you have any questions about administering an estate, or want to understand how we can help make the process as quick and smooth as possible, please do contact us for an informal discussion on 01273 610 611 or email us at info@renaissancelegal.co.uk