**Legal Aid Tariff of Fees**
**Schedule B1**
**Criminal**

Updated September 15, 2026

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1. **Refer to Schedule A** – General Conditions

2. **Fees:** A solicitor who has provided services may receive compensation based on a fixed fee or hourly fee basis. The same billing method (Fixed or Hourly) must be used throughout the file and cannot be combined.

   **Fixed Fee:** Where all matters included in the appointment are concluded, the solicitor may receive compensation for a one-time fixed fee amount outlined in Schedule B1-1. Fees are to include conducting trial(s), all necessary and preparatory services such as all interviews with clients and others, all correspondence, all telephone attendances, all documentation, and all briefs. Jury Waits are included in the fixed fee.

   **OR**

   **Hourly Fee**: The solicitor may receive compensation up to the maximum amount established in this tariff (Schedule B1-2) by providing a detailed listing which gives a fully itemized statement of each and every service rendered both by way of preparation and Court, showing among other things, the date of, and precise time involved in rendering each service.

3. **Initial Interview Only / No Contact** - Where no further services are provided after an initial interview, or where a file has been received and the solicitor has been unable to contact the client or obtain instructions, the fee for this service shall not exceed $115.

4. **Briefs of Law** – Where a brief of law is prepared, the commission may require that a copy of the brief of law be submitted.

5. **Additional Charges** – Where a solicitor represents a person charged with two or more offences and the trials, preliminary inquiries or pleas of guilty occur in the same Court at approximately the same time then the solicitor shall be entitled to fees (both preparation and court) as for one charge only, except where they can demonstrate that they have rendered separate and distinct services with respect to the additional charge or charges.

6. **Joint Charges** – Where a solicitor represents two or more persons charged with the same offence arising out of the same occurrence, the solicitor shall be entitled to fees (both preparation and court) as follows: 2nd client – an additional 30% of the fixed fee or maximum hours: 3rd client – an additional 20% of the fixed fee or maximum hours; 4 or more clients - an additional 10% of the fixed fee or maximum hours.

7. **Absence Fees for Travelling Time and Jury Waits** – Absence fees are charged at a rate of $92 per hour.

   a. Travel to municipalities other than the place where the solicitor resides for court appearances.

   b. Travel to interview a client who is in a correctional facility outside a community where a solicitor is ordinarily resident.

   c. Travel time for solicitors, who are not Saskatchewan residents, must be explicitly approved, in advance, by the Chief Executive Officer or designate.

   d. Jury waits will be paid to a maximum of five hours per day.

   e. When a solicitor has to attend a remote fly-in court point while traveling with the court party, the solicitor will be compensated to a maximum of 10 hours at the legal aid rate of $92 per hour to include travel, preparation, court and wait time. An additional $44 per hour will be available for wait time and/or travel time when the daily maximum of 10 hours is exceeded. These absence fees are applicable only when attending court on a legal aid appointment. If attending docket court for legal aid please refer to Schedule B3 for Agent compensation.

8. **Counsel Fees** – The Commission will pay for preparation and court fees for one counsel only. The Commission will not pay for fees of co-counsel or students-at-law unless authorized by the Chief Executive Officer.

9. **Pre-trial Conferences** – are included in the minimum fixed fee amount. When calculated on the hourly fee base, a pre-trial conference is considered court time.

10. **Disbursements**:

   a. Travel expenses for solicitors, who are not Saskatchewan residents, must be explicitly approved, in advance, by the Chief Executive Officer or designate.

   b. Where travel by private vehicle or airplane is necessary to attend court in a municipality other than where the solicitor resides, travelled kilometres will be reimbursed at current Commission rates, plus reasonable expenses for parking. Rental of automobiles requires the prior approval of the Chief Executive Officer or designate.

   c. Travel costs by means other than private vehicle or airplane (such as scheduled air-flights, taxi, bus, etc.) must have prior approval by the Chief Executive Officer and must be supported by ticket or voucher.

   d. Sustenance and accommodation allowance at centres other than the place

where the solicitor resides: Accommodation for counsel only, per day – reasonable and actual receipts to be attached. Meal rates shall be in accordance with current Commission rates and shall be paid for counsel only. Rates are updated on our web page legalaid.sk.ca in April and October.

e. Witness fees and travelling expenses of witnesses in accordance with the provision of the Rules of Court. (Out of province witness fees must be approved by the Chief Executive Officer or designate before incurred.)

f. Court Reporter Fees – Transcript Services (a branch of Court Services Division) should be used when requesting Court transcripts. Where independent Court Reporter services are required, the appointment letter should be provided to the reporting service so that they are aware that this is a legal aid client. This letter is used to have the transcript fees waived. When court reporter fees cannot be waived, they are to be paid for by counsel. Attach a copy of the invoice as a receipt for the disbursement when submitting your account for payment.

g. Postage, printing/photocopying, courier, telephone and facsimile expenses will be paid as follows (the Commission reserves the right to request copies of invoices):

i. Postage – actual disbursements to a maximum of $50
ii. Printing/Photocopying – to a maximum of $200 calculated at $0.25/page for first 400 pages and then $0.05/page thereafter
iii. Courier – actual disbursements
iv. Facsimile - $0.25/page to a maximum of $50
v. Long Distance – actual disbursements to a maximum of $75
vi. Process Servers – actual and reasonable disbursements (receipts required)

If charges for disbursements exceed the maximum specified, details and actual receipts will be required.

h. Any other proper disbursements with the approval of the Chief Executive Officer or designate.

10. **File Closure Fee** – The Commission recognizes that the office administration inherent in accepting legal aid referrals is not fully captured by tariff items. A one-time $25 file closure is available for all referrals and is to be included on the final account submitted.

11. **Research Material** – The Commission will not pay for any research material, including on-line research costs unless authorized by the Chief Executive Officer. Ontario Legal Aid

Plan Research papers are available, upon request, through the Head Office of the Saskatchewan Legal Aid Commission. Time spent by a solicitor doing research is considered preparation time.

12. **Application for Fee waiver** – As per *The Fee Waiver Act*, the Fee Waiver certificate should be used to waive fees at Transcript Services and fees associated with the service of documents by the Sheriffs' Office.