



Tariff rates

Tariffs

Private lawyers who represent legal aid clients or provide duty counsel services are paid according to a schedule of fees and disbursements known as the tariffs. Details of the tariffs are available on the LSS website at: www.legalaid.bc.ca/lawyers/tariffGuide.asp.

The society uses a three-tiered system of tariff rates based on years of experience.

Years of Call	Block Tariff	Hourly Tariff
Less than 4 years	Amount specified in the tariff	\$83.90
4 or more & less than 10	Amount specified in the tariff plus 5%	\$88.10
10 or more years	Amount specified in the tariff plus 10%	\$92.29

Note: most criminal law services are paid according to a block tariff rather than an hourly rate. Note also that disbursement rates are not affected by tiered rates.

Enhanced fees

Enhanced fees may be available for senior counsel in cases LSS considers to be complex criminal matters. To qualify for enhanced fees:

- the lawyer must have 12 years experience in criminal law or must have demonstrated to the satisfaction of LSS that he or she has proven expertise in criminal law, and;
- at least 50 percent of the lawyer's practice must be in criminal law.

LSS's Enhanced Fees Policy is available at: www.legalaid.bc.ca/lawyers/enhancedFees.asp.

Enhanced Fees	Hourly Rate
Senior Counsel	\$125.00
Junior Counsel	\$62.93 – \$83.90

Exceptional responsibility premium

LSS will pay an exceptional responsibility premium of 15 percent in cases where Crown Counsel is being paid a premium in "Recognition of Exceptional Responsibilities" (as per the British Columbia Crown Counsel Association Agreement with Respect to Crown Counsel). This premium applies to very few cases.

Average fees earned

In 2010/11, 1,000 lawyers took LSS referrals. The average lawyer earned \$52,000 from LSS referrals.