



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](#).

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

Year of Call	Block Tariff	Hourly Tariff
Less than 4 years	Amount specified in the tariff	\$83.90
4 or more s & 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 to senior counsel for cases LSS considers to be complex criminal matters. To qualify for enhanced fees, the lawyer must:

- have 12 years' experience in criminal law or demonstrated to the satisfaction of LSS that he or she has proven experience in criminal law, and
- have at least 50 percent of their practice devoted to criminal law.

See LSS's [Enhanced Fees and Exceptional Responsibility Premium Policy](#).

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

Exceptional responsibility premium

An exceptional responsibility premium (ERP) may be available to senior counsel for cases LSS considers to be exceptionally costly, complex, and serious criminal matters. To qualify for ERP, senior counsel must qualify for enhanced fees and possess executive criminal case management skills. This premium applies to very few cases.



Lawyer fees

Since 1991, LSS has been able to increase tariff rates only once. In 2013/14, 690 lawyers had accepted criminal legal aid cases with LSS. The average amount lawyers' earned for these cases was \$39,600. In 2013/14, 505 lawyers took family legal aid cases. They earned an average of \$19,200. In the same year, 416 lawyers took child protection legal aid cases. They earned an average of \$16,500.