

Changes to Immigration, Family, CFCSA & Disbursements Tariffs

As a further step in our ongoing commitment to tariff renewal, the Legal Services Society is implementing changes that will affect the Immigration, Family, CFCSA, and Disbursements Tariffs. These changes apply to all accounts received on or after June 15, 2006.

- Mediation Preparation items in the Family Tariff (Emergency Services) and the CFCSA Tariff are increased to a maximum of 5 hours.
- Standard disbursements will be permitted on Family Tariff (Limited Scope Services) referrals.
- Actual attendance time at Immigration and Refugee Board hearings will be paid.
- Interpreter's maximum meterage allowance will be increased to 250 km.
- Pre-approved translation authorizations in refugee hearing cases will be increased to \$361 (1,900 words).

Please note that the online version of the *Guide to Legal Aid Tariffs* has been updated to reflect these changes.

Preparation for Mediation

As part of the Legal Services Society's continued support for mediation in family matters, Tariff items [1170] of the Family Tariff and [5090] of the CFCSA Tariff are increased to a maximum of 5 hours.

Limited Scope Referrals

We have heard from lawyers that restrictions on disbursements for Limited Scope Referrals create difficulties for clients who are not able to cover necessary disbursements. The Disbursements section of the guide will now apply to Limited Scope Referrals. Counsel will be able to bill disbursements in the same manner as other tariffs.

The block Disbursement fee (tariff item [4240]) will no longer be available for limited scope referrals issued after June 15, 2006. Counsel with existing limited scope referrals may choose to bill the block Disbursement fee or their actual disbursements, but not both.

Immigration — Attendance at hearing

LSS will pay for actual attendance time at immigration hearings. The current limits of 3 and 5 hours are replaced by actual attendance time at hearings. This affects tariff items [4168], [4159], and [4188].

Meterage for interpreters

The maximum that can be billed for interpreter's meterage without authorization is increased from \$20 to \$115 (250 km). Interpreter's meterage will continue to be limited to travel from the interpreter's place of business to the office of the lawyer. Detours to pick up/drop off clients are not billable.

Translation authorizations

All translation authorizations issued with immigration refugee hearing referrals will be increased to \$361 (1,900 words). All current translation authorizations will be honoured up to \$361 without further authorization required.

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