

Legal Aid Rates and Fees

The legal aid rates and fees are used to reimburse lawyers and other providers for performing legal aid services in accordance with the steps for family law proceedings. The rates and fees are comprised of:

- hourly rates set according to the category of the forum – court or similar – for the proceedings, and the level of experience of the provider; and
- fees set for a specific service.

Fee Rates

The following hourly rates are applied in the determination of maximum grants and claiming for legal aid services performed in family law proceedings [Legal Services Act 2000 s7]

<i>Rates effective 1 July 2009</i>	Level of Experience			
	Other (\$/hr)	Level 1 (\$/hr)	Level 2 (\$/hr)	Level 3 (\$/hr)
Proceedings Category (see below for full explanation of categories)				
FC1 (Other tribunal/judicial authority)		103	130	140
FC2 (Family Court, District Court, ...)		119	135	151
FC3 (High Court)		135	151	168
FC4 (Court of Appeal/Supreme Court)		146	162	179
Travel time		54	65	76
Employment advocates	92			
Qualified legal executives	92			
Non qualified legal executives/para-legals	81			
Law clerks	81			

NB: All fee rates are GST inclusive.

The fee rates are effective from 1 July 2009.

Forum Categories

- FC 1** Any tribunal or judicial authority not included in any other category
- FC 2** Family Court, District Court (including any mental health hearing before a District Court judge), Environment Court, Employment Court, Maori Land Court
- FC 3** High Court, Maori Appellate Court, Waitangi Tribunal.
- FC 4** Court of Appeal and Supreme Court.

Level of Experience

- Level 1** A person with up to 4 complete years of litigation experience
- Level 2** A person with at least 4 and up to 9 complete years of litigation experience
- Level 3** A person with at least 9 complete years of litigation experience

Fixed Fees

No fixed fees have been established for Steps/Activities within family law proceedings.

Other Fee Rates

Other fee rates have been established by the Agency for the following specific services:

Services	Fixed Fee/Rate
LARP Review	\$220 per review * (including disbursements)
Private Mediation	\$160/hour

* Payment in excess of the fee, up to a maximum of 3 hours at the appropriate fee rate, will be considered in special circumstances - by application for amendment to grant.

NB: All other fee rates are GST inclusive.

The fee rates are effective from 1 July 2008.