

## Details of Our Service and Fees for Immigration Matters

We wish to be as clear as reasonably possible regarding the range of fees which you may incur if you instruct ebl miller rosenfalck to assist you with UK immigration applications, including work visas, British nationality applications and spouse visas. None of these applications can be financed under the Legal Aid and Assistance Scheme and therefore are funded solely on a private basis.

### How we explain our fees to our clients

We provide all clients with a letter of engagement together with our terms and conditions in which we confirm the scope of our work, and where applicable, any proposed UK immigration application.

We shall wherever possible provide an estimate of costs for the specific matter. Where it is impractical to do so then we will endeavour to provide you with a range of likely fees – as set out below - which is based on our experience of providing the service. If for any reason, our fee is likely to go above the upper estimate fee, then we shall inform you in advance and explain the reasons for the increase in cost, which could be because of unforeseen circumstances and or the complexity of the matter, the urgency of the matter, specialist resources are required (including from other teams, such as the employment or corporate or counsel), or in connection with the amount of supporting evidence provided or which we need to consider. We encourage clients to answer our questions fully at the outset and provide as much information as possible, which will help us provide correct advice and a more accurate indication of costs. In some cases, we may offer clients the choice of whether they wish us to charge on a time spent basis – based on hourly rates referred to below - or on a fixed fee basis.

Charges based on an hourly rate will be for work which generally include taking your instructions, meetings and telephone calls, considering, preparing and working on papers, correspondence, research, speaking with third parties (including but not limited to the Home Office), preparing file notes, travelling to and from meetings, correspondence and making and receiving telephone calls. The cost of a single consultation irrespective of whether the meeting lasts one hour will be charged at a minimum of £600 plus VAT. Where the meeting lasts longer than an hour, it will be charged according to our hourly rate.

Time is charged in six-minute units. Our hourly rates range, depending on the seniority of the team member, from £360 plus VAT for associates to £480 for partners, plus VAT.

### What is not included

- Disbursements and VAT (as referred to below)
- Attendance at a Home Office Interview
- If your application is refused, advice related to any appeal, review, resubmission or Judicial Review will be
- Post completion advice and support Value Added Tax (VAT).

Our fees and most disbursements costs (referred to in further detail below) are subject to VAT. VAT is currently set at 20%.

### Disbursements

Whilst working on your behalf, we may incur various expenses (“called disbursements”) which are costs related to your matter that are payable to third parties and for which you will be liable. Those disbursements include, but are not limited to:

Counsel's fees,  
Home Office fees,

bank fees,  
 special delivery/courier fees, search fees,  
 Court fees,  
 Photocopying fees,  
 travel expenses,  
 expert fees,  
 or translation fees.

We will inform you in advance of any disbursements in your matter.

In some circumstances however disbursements, such as Home Office and embassy fees, are paid directly by you. The above disbursements vary from matter to matter and can on occasion be significantly more than the ranges given above. We can give you an accurate figure once we understand the work and any application that will be undertaken, have reviewed the key documents and we have discussed the full background with you.

For immigration related court hearings, it is usual for the barrister's clerk (the individual at the barrister's chambers who organises their diaries and agrees the level of fees) to agree that a retainer fee be incurred in advance of any appeal hearing so that they are paid a fee even if the matter does not go to court. We ask for monies on account of anticipated disbursement costs, and also our anticipated fees, to be paid to us on account prior to any hearings.

### **What services are included**

Our work shall generally involve the following (as applicable to your matter)

- Discussing the individual/dependent(s) situation in detail with you and advising you on the most appropriate application to make in the circumstances and advising on any other available options;
- Providing you with legal advice regarding the requirements of the UK Immigration rules;
- If you do not fulfil applicable criteria, discussing potential solutions to help address or resolve any issues, where possible;
- Advising on, and assisting with the application form and requirements;
- Advising, reviewing and considering supporting evidence;
- Where necessary helping you to obtain further evidence (such as bank statements, supporting statements, expert reports);
- Assisting you with your business or individual application to the Home Office in the UK or embassy, outside the UK;
- Advising you on the outcome of your application and any further steps you should take;
- Attendance at Home Office interview; if the Home Office ask you to attend an interview, we will give you clear advice (and discuss the possibility of us attending with you) at the appropriate time.

The number of hours to review your documents will vary according to the number and length of the documents, whether they need to be translated, and whether anything is missing. The time frame may be extended where there are missing documents and you are required to obtain duplicates.

In the event we attend an interview with you, there is likely to be additional charges and disbursements in respect of our mileage/ travel expense.

### **The costs quoted here do not include:**

- Any Home Office fees for making the application. You or your employer will pay this to the Home Office directly as part of the application process.
- Where the Home Office refuses your application, advice and assistance in relation to any appeal. The cost for this will be discussed beforehand and agreed with you.
- Any other disbursements in relation to your matter for example travel or counsel's fees.

## Hourly rates

In some situations, we may be able to provide a fixed fee or provide a cap to our fees however in other circumstances, such as representing you in connection with a Home Office review or an immigration appeal hearing, you will incur costs on a time spent basis according to our hourly rate.

Our fees will vary according to the complexity of the case and the hourly charge out rate of the member of the immigration team dealing with your case. If we agree to base our legal fee on the hourly rate of the member of the team handling your matter, our legal fee will reflect the time it takes for the relevant person to complete all stages of the matter. The hourly rate will vary depending on the seniority of the team member and any additional requirement for supervision time by a more senior fee earner (if relevant).

## How long will my application take to process?

Our team will advise you on the approximate length of time of the application and approval process. We cannot provide a guarantee on the length of time which may vary due to Home Office resources or rates of applications. We aim to submit applications within 2-3 weeks from our initial instruction on the basis that we have been provided with all relevant documentation. The time frame can be shorter if your matter is urgent. In some cases, the Home Office may provide a priority service. As above, the time frame may be extended where the matter is complicated or document heavy. In most cases, the Home Office requires significant supporting documentation which can be time consuming to review and to collate. However, once we have received the required information, supporting documentation and monies on account, we will normally be able to assist you with your matter shortly thereafter.

The estimated number of hours it will take to complete your application, and supporting representations, will depend on the circumstances in your case such as:

- The nature of the application
- Whether it is your first application, an extension or an application following refusal
- The amount of supporting evidence
- Your immigration history including absences from the UK
- Criminal checks
- Whether we require an interpreter to translate on your behalf
- Your employment (if relevant) status i.e. whether you are employed, self-employed or a director
- Whether you are applying with other dependants
- Whether any documents are required to be translated
- Whether your application needs to be supported with country expert reports or medical reports
- Whether your application requires supporting statements from third parties.

## Range of likely fees

Please note that the fee information below is not a quote and excludes disbursements. If you are concerned about the complexity of your application, please contact a member of our team to discuss your specific circumstances.

If you are able to provide sufficient instructions and supporting documents at our first meeting and you clearly meet the applicable Immigration rules, the cost is likely to be at the lower end of our range of fees unless we have agreed a fixed fee with you. All fees quoted are exclusive of VAT.

Immigration Range of likely costs (£UK Sterling) Exc. VAT

British Citizenship - £3,500 to £5,000  
 Child Registration - £3,000 to £5,000  
 Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) £4,000 to £8,000  
 Global Talent visa - £5,000  
 High Potential Individual visa - £3,000

Innovator Founder visa - initial £4,500 to £6,000  
 Exceptional Talent - £3,500 to £4,000  
 UK Expansion visa - £2,500 to £4,000  
 Senior or Special Worker Visa £2,000 to £3,000  
 Skilled Worker visa - £2,000 - £3,000  
 Extension applications - £1,500 - £4,000  
 Youth Mobility visa - £1,500  
 Spouse Visa - £3,500 to £5,000  
 FLR Spouse Settlement - £3,500 to £5,000  
 ILR Child settlement - £3,500  
 Elderly dependent visa - £3,500 to £5,000  
 Visitor visa - £1,700  
 Frontier Worker permit - £2,000 to £3,000  
 Graduate visa - £1,800

Tribunal Hearings: Initial filings, preparing and attending £7,000 to £15,000 for a hearing lasting one day. This does not include counsel's fees which generally range from £3,000 to £7,000 for a one-day hearing.

Factors that could make a case more complex (and expensive) include the following:

- where you have a previous history of non-compliance with immigration laws in the UK or any other country
- where you have a criminal conviction or any issues relating to your past conduct that the Home Office could form the view that you are not of good character
- where the Home Office asks you to attend an interview
- where you have dependents and
- the seniority of the lawyers working on your case

### **Immigration Appeal Hearings**

Immigration appeal hearings are priced at our usual hourly rates. Our charges, for appeal hearings, vary and dependant on the complexity of the matter, number of witnesses involved, whether an expert is required to give evidence, whether an interpreter is required. In most situations a specialist barrister will carry out the advocacy for you at the appeal hearing and therefore we factor in barrister's fees in our cost estimate. Rates vary according to the seniority of the barrister.

Counsel Brief rates for a one-day hearing range from £5,000 to £10,000 which include preparation for the case.

***For further information and advice please contact:***

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***The material contained in this guide is provided for general purposes only and does not constitute legal or other professional advice. Appropriate legal advice should be sought for specific circumstances and before action is taken.***