Probate Cost Estimator Worksheet

Fillable Planning Worksheet — ClearLegalTips.com (2026)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Probate costs come out of the estate. Estimate the total for your situation and see where you can reduce it.

A. Your Situation

Tick what applies, then fill the right-hand column as you research your own numbers.

[ ] Estate has a valid will
[ ] No will (intestate)
[ ] Real estate in more than one state
[ ] Estate likely under your state's small-estate limit

B. Court & Filing

Item	Typical Range	Your Estimate
Probate court filing fee	$50 – $1,200	$
Publication / notice fees	$0 – $300	$
Certified copies	$10 – $100	$

Court & Filing subtotal: ____

C. Professional

Item	Typical Range	Your Estimate
Attorney fee (flat or % of estate)	$1,500 – $10,000+	$
Executor / personal-rep fee	0 – 5% of estate	$
Appraisal of property	$300 – $1,000	$

Professional subtotal: ____

D. Other

Item	Typical Range	Your Estimate
Bond (if required)	$100 – $1,000	$
Accounting / tax prep	$200 – $2,000	$

Other subtotal: ____

E. Total Estimated Probate Cost

Total Estimated Probate Cost: ____

F. Ways to Lower Your Cost

[ ] Use a small-estate affidavit if the estate qualifies

[ ] Hold assets in a living trust to avoid probate

[ ] Name beneficiaries on accounts (POD/TOD)

[ ] Ask for a flat attorney fee instead of a percentage

Notes

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