Legal Aid Ontario

B3: Better Billing Bulletin

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Billing Online

By billing Online, you can help us pay you faster! We receive 1200 paper accounts monthly; our staff sort these accounts, scan and manually enter them Online. This takes time and resources and delays how quickly we can pay you. You can reduce this delay substantially by submitting your account Online. The majority of paper accounts within tariff maximums are paid within 25 days if billed Online.

If your account is late or if you are suspended from the Online portal, you must submit paper accounts. If neither of these situations applies, please submit your account Online. The Lawyer Service Centre can help you get started and walk you through the simple process of billing Online. Give us a call today! (416) 979-9934 or 1-866-979-9934

Attaching Detailed Accounts Online

Detailed accounts are required whenever you request discretion and if you become subject to a random or targeted post-payment examination. Attaching detailed accounts Online saves time and money. We are recommending you attach detailed accounts Online every time you submit an account. Attaching your detailed accounts Online at the time you submit your account will reduce the number of calls from us and help speed up your payment. For support or questions regarding attaching detailed accounts, contact the Lawyer Service Centre (416) 979-9934 or 1-866-979-9934 or review Better Billing Bulletin Vol. 10.

Please ensure your detailed accounts conform to Legal Aid Tariff and Billing Handbook guidelines.

Disbursements - appeal transcripts

Where more than one co-accused is appealing a judgment to the Court of Appeal or Divisional Court, we would ask that counsel co-ordinate the ordering of the transcript. LAO pays \$3.75 per page for the original regardless of the number of copies ordered. When each counsel representing a co-accused orders a transcript, it can amount to thousands of dollars for Legal Aid Ontario. It can also delay processing of appeal transcript disbursement authorizations.

Please review the Legal Aid Tariff and Billing Handbook for more information on appeal transcripts.

Questions?

Please let us know if you have questions or if there are topics you'd like to see us cover by contacting the Lawyer Service Centre at <u>pl-lsc@lao.on.ca</u>

