

## **Freemans Solicitors Fees**

### **Immigration 2018**

#### **Applying to become a British Citizen?**

We assist with British Nationality & Registration Applications to the Home Office, including adults and children. Our fees are as follows:

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| - British Naturalisation Application (adults):  | £1,000.00 |
| - British Registration Applications (children): | £1,000.00 |

Hourly rate: £200.00

On average, this type of work takes between 6-15 hours to complete. This means that on average costs are between £1,000.00 to £3,000.00. All figures exclude VAT, therefore, VAT will be payable where applicable.

The exact number of hours it will take will depend on the circumstances in your case. Such as:

- The amount of supporting evidence that we need to consider, including working out the numbers of days of absence from the UK.
- Which language(s) you speak.
- Whether you are applying with dependants.

If you are able to provide sufficient evidence at our first meeting and clearly meet the applicable Immigration Rules, the cost is likely to be at the lower end of the above range.

#### **What is included if I use Freemans Solicitors for my nationality/registration application?**

The work will involve:

- discussing your circumstances in detail and confirming whether this is the most appropriate application for you to make and what other options may be available to you;
- giving you advice about the requirements of the Immigration and Nationality Rules and whether you meet the criteria.
- if you do not fulfil certain criteria, whether this can be overcome and how, which on average takes 5-10 hours;

- considering the supporting evidence you have provided, which we anticipate will take 5 to 10 hours\*;
- where necessary, helping you obtain further evidence (such as medical records and bank statements), including taking statements of any witnesses;
- preparing your application and submitting it on your behalf, which we anticipate will take 10 hours;
- Attendance at a Home Office interview: if the Home Office ask you to attend an interview, we will prepare you for the interview and give you clear advice (and discuss the possibility of us attending with you) at the appropriate time. This could be between 5 and 10 hours of work.
- giving you advice about the outcome of the application and any further steps you need to take.

\*the amount of hours depends on the number/amount of documents, whether they need to be translated, whether anything is missing and how long it will take to obtain the missing documents. Disbursements are not included in costs set out above.

Disbursements are costs relating to your matter that are payable to third parties, such as visa application fees. We will handle the payment of the disbursements on your behalf to ensure a smooth process.

- Interpreters' fees at £30.00 per hour. This kind of application will normally require between 5-10 hours with an interpreter, depending on the complexity of your case.
- Independent expert reports e.g. medical experts. These are not required in most cases: we will let you know as soon as possible if we consider an expert report is necessary.
- If there is an interview and we do attend with you, there will be additional disbursements in respect of our mileage/travel expenses.

The costs quoted here do not include:

- Any Home Office fees for making the application. You will pay this to the Home Office directly as part of the application process.
- Where the Home Office refuse your application, advice and assistance in relation to any appeal/review.
- Interpreters' fees. You do not need to use an interpreter of our choosing.
- If making payment to the Home Office by Postal Order, you will have to obtain the Postal Orders from the Post Office and pay the requisite Post Office fee.
- Posting the application/supporting documents to the Home Office (ie postage fees).
- If using the Home Office Premium Service, then you are liable to pay the Home Office Premium Service fee.

Our fixed fee for British Naturalisation applications will depend on the individual circumstances of your immigration matter, ie if there are complex matters which do not make you immediately eligible for Naturalisation, ie you do not satisfy the Residence Requirements, or Good Character Requirement, which requires additional representation/work/investigations to be undertaken, then we shall agree to the additional increased fee prior to undertaking the work.

Please be advised that the above fee is for one applicant only. If there are multiple applicants (ie a family applying together), then we shall agree in advance what the most appropriate fee will be.

### **How long will my British Nationality/Registration application take?**

We cannot guarantee how long the Home Office will take to process your application. We would invite you to visit the Home Office website for current processing times:

<https://www.gov.uk/visa-processing-times>

We will normally be able to submit this type of application within 4 weeks (or shorter) of you instructing us, but we will let you know at the earliest opportunity if it is likely to take longer than this.

Please note the anticipated number of hours and fees are an estimate based on the facts above. Applications are likely to vary and of course, we can give you a more accurate estimate once we have more information about your specific case.

### **I am a European Citizen, can I obtain Proof of Residence in the UK?**

We assist European Citizens in their Applications to the Home Office. Our fees are as follows:

- EEA Registration Certificate	£1,500.00
- EEA Permanent Residence	£1,500.00
- EEA Family Permit	£1,500.00
- EEA Residence Card	£1,500.00

Hourly rate: £200.00

On average, this type of work takes between 9-15 hours to complete. This means that on average costs are between £1,500.00 and £3,000.00. All figures exclude VAT, therefore, VAT will be payable where applicable.

The exact number of hours it will take depends on the circumstances in your case. Such as:

- The amount of supporting evidence that we need to consider to show proof you have been living and working in the UK.
- Which language(s) you speak.
- Whether you are applying with dependants.

If you are able to provide sufficient evidence at our first meeting and clearly meet the applicable laws for European Nationals, the cost is likely to be at the lower end of the above range.

### **What is included if I use Freemans Solicitors for my European application?**

The work will involve:

- discussing your circumstances in detail and confirming whether this is the most appropriate application for you to make and what other options may be available to you;
- giving you advice about the requirements of the laws applicable to European Citizens and whether you meet the criteria.
- if you do not fulfil certain criteria, whether this can be overcome and how, which on average takes 5-10 hours;
- considering the supporting evidence you have provided, which we anticipate will take 2 to 8 hours\*;
- where necessary, helping you obtain further evidence (such as HMRC records, medical records and bank statements), including taking statements from witnesses;
- preparing your application and submitting it on your behalf, which we anticipate will take 8 hours;
- Attendance at a Home Office interview: if the Home Office ask you to attend an interview, we will give you clear advice (and discuss the possibility of attending with you) at the appropriate time. This could be between 5 and 10 hours of work.
- giving you advice about the outcome of the application and any further steps you need to take.

\*the amount of hours depends on the amount/number of documents, whether they need to be translated, whether anything is missing and how long it will take to obtain the missing documents. Disbursements not included in costs set out above.

Disbursements are costs relating to your matter that are payable to third parties, such as visa application fees. We will handle the payment of the disbursements on your behalf to ensure a smooth process.

- Interpreters' fees at £30.00 per hour. This kind of application will normally require between 2-4 hours with an interpreter, depending on the complexity of your case. You do not need to use an interpreter of our choosing.
- Independent expert reports e.g. medical experts. These are not required in many cases: we will let you know as soon as possible if we consider an expert report is necessary.
- If there is an interview and we do attend with you, there will be additional disbursements in respect of our mileage/travel expenses.

The costs quoted here do not include:

- Any Home Office fees for making the application. You will pay this to the Home Office directly as part of the application process.
- Where the Home Office refuse your application, advice and assistance in relation to any appeal.
- Interpreters' fees. You do not need to use an interpreter of our choosing.
- If making payment to the Home Office by Postal Orders, you will have to obtain the Postal Orders from the Post Office and pay the requisite Post Office fee.
- Posting the application/supporting documents to the Home Office (ie postage fees).
- If using the Home Office Premium Service, you are liable to pay the Home Office Premium Service fee.

Our fixed fee for assisting European Citizens will depend on the individual circumstances of the immigration matter, ie if there are complex matters which do not make you immediately eligible for EEA Permanent Residence for example, you do not have enough documentary evidence to prove you have been working in the UK, then we shall agree to the additional increased fees prior to undertaking the work.

Please be advised that the above fee is for one applicant only. If there are multiple applicants (ie a family applying together), we shall agree in advance what the most appropriate fee will be.

### **How long will my European application take?**

We cannot guarantee how long the Home Office will take to process your application. We would invite you to visit the Home Office website for current processing times:

<https://www.gov.uk/visa-processing-times>

We will normally be able to submit this type of application within 4 weeks (or shorter) of you instructing us, but we will let you know at the earliest opportunity if it is likely to take longer than this.

Please note the anticipated number of hours and fees are an estimate based on the facts above. Applications are likely to vary and of course, we can give you a more accurate estimate once we have more information about your specific case.

### **Joining or Visiting Family in the UK, or coming to work in the UK?**

We assist individuals in their immigration or visa applications to the Home Office. Our fees are as follows:

- Student/work experience visas:	£1,500.00
- Visit Visas (tourism/family/friends):	£1,500.00
- Spouse/Partner/Fiance(e)/Proposed Civil Partners:	£1,500.00
- Applications for work or study under the Points Based System:	£2,500.00
- Tier 1 Entrepreneur:	£5,000.00
- Tier 1 Investor:	£7,500.00
- dependent relative and family reunion application	£1,500.00
- ancestry visas	£1,500.00
- other categories, such as applications on the basis of long residence	£2,000.00
- Sponsorship Licence:	£2,500.00

Hourly rate: £200.00

On average, this type of work takes between 10-40 hours to complete, depending on which application we lodge on your behalf. This means that on average costs are between £1,500.00 and £7,500.00. All figures exclude VAT where applicable.

The exact number of hours it will take will depend on the circumstances of your case, such as:

- The amount of supporting evidence that we need to consider to prove you are eligible to be granted a visa.
- Which language(s) you speak.
- Whether you are applying with dependants.

If you are able to provide sufficient evidence at our first meeting and clearly meet the applicable laws under the current UK Immigration Laws, the cost is likely to be at the lower end of the above range.

## **What is included if I use Freemans Solicitors for my immigration application?**

The work will involve:

- discussing your circumstances in detail and confirming whether this is the most appropriate application for you to make and what other options may be available to you;
- giving you advice about the requirements of the laws applicable you and whether you meet the criteria.
- if you do not fulfil certain criteria, whether this can be overcome and how, which on average takes 5-10 hours;
- considering the supporting evidence you have provided, which we anticipate will take 5 to 10 hours\*;
- where necessary, helping you obtain further evidence (such as medical records and bank statements), including taking statements of any witnesses;
- preparing your application and submitting it on your behalf, which we anticipate will take 10 hours;
- Attendance at a Home Office interview: if the Home Office ask you to attend an interview, we will give you clear advice (and discuss the possibility of attending with you) at the appropriate time. This could be between 5 and 10 hours of work.
- giving you advice about the outcome of the application and any further steps you need to take.

\*the amount of hours depends on the amount/number of documents, whether they need to be translated, whether anything is missing and how long it will take to obtain the missing documents. Disbursements are not included in costs set out above.

Disbursements are costs relating to your matter that are payable to third parties, such as visa application fees. We handle the payment of the disbursements on your behalf to ensure a smooth process.

- Interpreters' fees at £30.00 per hour. This kind of application will normally require between 4-8 hours with an interpreter, depending on the complexity of your case. You do not need to use an interpreter of our choosing.
- Independent expert reports e.g. medical experts. These are not required in many cases: we will let you know as soon as possible if we consider an expert report is necessary.
- If there is an interview and we do attend with you, there will be additional disbursements in respect of our mileage/travel expenses.

The costs quoted here do not include:

- Any Home Office fees for making the application. You will pay this to the Home Office directly as part of the application process.
- Where the Home Office refuse your application, advice and assistance in relation to any appeal.
- Interpreters' fees. You do not need to use an interpreter of our choosing.
- If making payment to the Home Office by Postal Orders, you will have to obtain the Postal Orders from the Post Office, and pay the requisite Post Office fee.
- Posting the application/supporting documents to the Home Office (ie postage fees).
- If using the Home Office Premium Service, then you are liable to pay the Home Office Premium Service fee.

Our fixed fee for assisting you in your application will depend on your particular circumstances of your immigration matter, ie if there are complex matters which does not make you immediately eligible for a visa in the UK, then we shall agree to the additional increased fee prior to undertaking the work.

Please be advised that the above fee is for one applicant only. If there are multiple applicants (ie a family applying together), we shall agree in advance what the most appropriate fee will be.

### **How long will my immigration application take?**

We cannot guarantee how long the Home Office will take to process your application. We would invite you to visit the Home Office website for current processing times:

<https://www.gov.uk/visa-processing-times>

We will normally be able to submit this type of application within 4 weeks (or shorter) of you instructing us, but we will let you know at the earliest opportunity if it is likely to take longer than this.

Please note the anticipated number of hours and fees are an estimate based on the facts above. Applications are likely to vary and of course, we can give you a more accurate estimate once we have more information about your specific case.

### **Conclusion**

Our above hourly rates will be valid until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. Our hourly rate will be reviewed on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019. Please refer to the UK Visas & Immigration website for the current Home Office fees for various immigration applications:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration>

Our team has over 26 years of collective legal experience in delivering high quality work in all matters relating to immigration law.

Your matter will be handled by Mr Oluwole Osibona (Partner), Mr Shabab Hamid (Associate Solicitor) or Mr Ahmed Sesay (Solicitor Advocate) at Freemans Solicitors.

Mr Oluwole Osibona – Partner

Mr Osibona is the head of our team and has over 26 years legal experience in UK Immigration Law. Mr Osibona obtained a BA Hons in Philosophy in 1985, an LLB Law in 1990, and was called to the Nigerian Bar in 1992. Mr Osibona became a Solicitor of England and Wales in 1998. Mr Osibona has been working in this area since he qualified in 1992, and has helped thousands of families & individuals. Mr Osibona has celebrated success in assisting clients in Tier 1 (Entrepreneur) and Tier 1 (Investor) applications.

Mr Shabab Hamid – Associate Solicitor & Solicitor Advocate

Mr Hamid is an Associate Solicitor at Freemans Solicitors. Mr Hamid qualified in March 2012, and graduated from Sheffield Hallam University with a LLB (Hons) Law. Mr Hamid has engaged in UK Immigration Law since 2006, and has extensive experience in human rights based applications, receiving many successful results over the years.

Mr Ahmed Sesay – Solicitor Advocate (Higher Rights of Audience – Civil)

Mr. Ahmed Sesay is a Solicitor-Advocate at Freemans Solicitors. Ahmed has extensive experience in UK Immigration and Asylum law and Litigation. Ahmed's work involves advocacy and judicial review challenges in the Upper Tribunal, High Court, and the Court of Appeal. Ahmed qualified in 2013 having worked in voluntary, public and private law firms. Ahmed graduated from Queen Mary, University of London with LLB (Hons) and MSC e-commerce engineering with Law.