

2017 to 2018 Fees Report

The Honourable David Lametti, P.C., M.P. Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada



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Minister's message

On behalf of the Department of Justice, I am pleased to present the 2017 to 2018 Report on Fees.

On June 22, 2017, the Service Fees Act received royal assent, thereby repealing the User Fees Act.

The Service Fees Act introduces a modern legislative framework that enables cost-effective delivery of services and, through enhanced reporting to Parliament, improved transparency and oversight. The Act provides for:

- a streamlined approach to consultation and the approval of new or modified fees;
- a requirement for services to have service standards and reporting against these standards, along with a policy to remit fees to fee payers when standards are not met;
- an automatic annual fee adjustment by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to ensure that fees keep pace with inflation; and
- annual detailed reporting to Parliament in order to increase transparency.

This 2017 to 2018 Fees Report is the first report to be prepared under the Service Fees Act. The report includes new information such as a detailed listing of all fees along with future year fee amounts. Additional fee information will be included starting next fiscal year, once the Department of Justice Canada fully transitions to the Service Fees Act regime.

I welcome the increased transparency and oversight that the Service Fees Act's reporting regime embodies, and I am fully committed to transitioning my department to this modern framework.

The Honourable David Lametti, P.C., M.P. Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada

General fees information

The tables below provide the following information on each category of fees, including:

- the name of the fee category
- the dates on which the fee (or fee category) was introduced and last amended (if applicable)
- service standards
- performance results against these standards
- financial information on total costs, total revenues and remissions

In addition to the information presented by fee category, there is a summary of the financial information for all fees as well as a listing of fees under the Department's authority. This listing includes the existing dollar fee amounts and the adjusted dollar fee amount for a future year.

General and financial information by fee category

General information

Fee category	Family Orders and Agreements Enforcement Assistance Act (FOAEAA)
Fee-setting authority	Regulatory • Family Support Orders and Agreements Garnishment Regulations ⁱ
Year introduced	1994
Year last amended	Regulations were last modified in 2015, but the fee was last modified in 1999.
Service standard	Voicemail messages from support debtors are returned within two business days.
Performance results	98% of calls received were returned within the service standard of two business days.
Other information	Actual revenue and full cost figures cannot be compared directly because of differences in the basis of accounting for revenue and costs. Revenues are calculated on an accrual accounting basis, while costs are calculated on a cash basis.

Financial information (dollars)

2016 to 2017	2017 to 2018	2017 to 2018	2017 to 2018
Revenue	Revenue	Cost*	Remissions [†]
7,824,229	7,584,047	1,664,267	Not applicable

^{*} The amount includes direct and indirect costs where such costs are identifiable and material.

General information

Fee category	Central Registry of Divorce Proceedings (CRDP)		
Fee-setting authority	Service		
	Central Registry of Divorce Proceedings Fee Order ⁱⁱ		
Year introduced	1986		
Year last amended	Not applicable		
Service standard	The CRDP must issue a Clearance Certificate or a Notice of Duplication to the appropriate court registrar within three weeks of receiving a valid and complete Registration of Divorce Proceedings Form.		
Performance results	The CRDP provided a Clearance Certificate or a Notice of Duplication to the appropriate court registrar within three weeks for every valid and complete Registration of Divorce Proceedings Form it received. (100% compliance with service standard)		
Other information	The CRDP Fee Order sets the CRDP fee at \$10 to be paid by a person who files an application for divorce and who has received a service under section 5 of the CRDP Regulations. No fee shall be paid by a person who receives legal aid from a province in respect of the person's application for divorce where, pursuant to the law of the province, payment by that person of the fees established by the province for filing an application for divorce is waived.		
	Pursuant to a Memorandum of Agreement with the province or territory, describing the responsibilities of each government under the CRDP Regulations, provinces and territories are billed on a quarterly basis at \$10 per registration application submitted, less \$3 per registration application as compensation for carrying out their responsibilities. Each province or territory receives an invoice itemizing the total quarterly amount of CRDP fees owed, less the compensation due, resulting in an amount payable to the CRDP (Receiver General of Canada) of \$7 per registration.		

[†] A remission is a partial or full return of a fee paid. Under the Service Fees Act, departments are required to develop policies that determine when fees will be remitted to fee payers, should service standards not be met. The requirement for departments to remit fees is anticipated to come into effect on March 31, 2020. This effective date allows departments time to develop remissions policies and adjust service standard tracking and remittance systems. During fiscal year 2017 to 2018, some departments may have issued remissions in accordance with the authority of their enabling legislation or regulation as opposed to the authority given by the Service Fees Act. It is the remissions issued under enabling legislation or regulations that are shown above.

Financial information (dollars)

2016 to 2017	2017 to 2018	2017 to 2018	2017 to 2018
Revenue	Revenue	Cost*	Remissions [†]
677,427	660,630	800,081	

^{*} The amount includes direct and indirect costs where such costs are identifiable and material.

General information

Fee category	Fees Charged for the Processing of Requests Filed Under the Access to Information Act (ATIA)
Fee-setting authority	Access to Information Actiii
Year introduced	1983
Year last amended	2018
Service standard	Response provided within 30 days following receipt of request. The response time may be extended pursuant to section 9 of the ATIA. Notice of extension has to be sent within 30 days after receipt of request. The ATIA provides fuller details.
Performance results	Statutory deadline met 80.3% of the time
Other information	Full cost reflects the costs in relation to the ATIA within the Access to Information and Privacy (ATIP) Office in the Department of Justice Canada. The role of the ATIP Office is to respond to all formal requests that are made to the Department of Justice Canada, in accordance with the Access to Information Act. In addition, the Office responds to consultations from other government institutions regarding solicitor-client information for the government as a whole.

[†] A remission is a partial or full return of a fee paid. Under the Service Fees Act, departments are required to develop policies that determine when fees will be remitted to fee payers, should service standards not be met. The requirement for departments to remit fees is anticipated to come into effect on March 31, 2020. This effective date allows departments time to develop remissions policies and adjust service standard tracking and remittance systems. During fiscal year 2017 to 2018, some departments may have issued remissions in accordance with the authority of their enabling legislation or regulation as opposed to the authority given by the Service Fees Act. It is the remissions issued under enabling legislation or regulations that are shown above.

Financial information (dollars)

2016 to 2017	2017 to 2018	2017 to 2018	2017 to 2018
Revenue	Revenue	Cost*	Remissions [†]
3,155	3,420	2,304,992	Not applicable

^{*} The amount includes direct and indirect costs where such costs are identifiable and material. The 2017-18 cost differs from the cost reported in the Annual Report to Parliament 2017-2018: Access to Information Activ, which does not include indirect costs.

Financial totals for all fee categories

Total revenues, cost and remissions (dollars)

2016 to 2017	2017 to 2018	2017 to 2018	2017 to 2018
Total revenue	Total revenue	Total cost	Total remissions
8,504,811	8,248,097	4,769,340	Not applicable

Note: the totals are the sums of the revenues, costs and remissions reported for all fee categories in the "Financial information" tables.

[†] A remission is a partial or full return of a fee paid. Under the Service Fees Act, departments are required to develop policies that determine when fees will be remitted to fee payers, should service standards not be met. The requirement for departments to remit fees is anticipated to come into effect on March 31, 2020. This effective date allows departments time to develop remissions policies and adjust service standard tracking and remittance systems. During fiscal year 2017 to 2018, some departments may have issued remissions in accordance with the authority of their enabling legislation or regulation as opposed to the authority given by the Service Fees Act. It is the remissions issued under enabling legislation or regulations that are shown above.

Fees under the Department's authority

Fee amounts for 2017 to 2018, 2019 to 2020, and a future fiscal year, as applicable (dollars)

Name of fee	2017 to 2018 Fee amount	2019 to 2020 Adjusted fee amount*	Future fee amount and fiscal year [†]
Family Orders and Agreements Enforcement Assistance Act	38	38.84*	To be confirmed
Central Registry of Divorce Proceedings	10	10.22*	To be confirmed

^{*} Fees are adjusted annually in one of two ways: (1) Under the Service Fees Act, fees are adjusted in each fiscal year by the percentage change over 12 months in the April All-Items Consumer Price Index for Canada, as published by Statistics Canada for the previous fiscal year. The Consumer Price Index rate for this report is 2.2%. (2) The fee is subject to a periodic adjustment at a predetermined rate, in accordance with another authority in legislation or regulation. If low-materiality regulations become effective before March 31, 2020, the fee amount adjustment will not be applicable.

[†] The "Future fee amount and fiscal year" is the new amount of the fee in a future fiscal year other than 2019 to 2020, adjusted by a predetermined rate, in accordance with the authority in legislation or regulation.

Endnotes

¹ Family Support Orders and Agreements Garnishment Regulations, http://lawslois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-88-181/index.html

ⁱⁱ Central Registry of Divorce Proceedings Fee Order, http://lawslois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/SOR-86-547/page-1.html

iii Access to Information Act, http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/A-1/

iv Annual Report to Parliament 2017-2018: Access to Information Act, http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/trans/atip-aiprp/rep-rap.html