

## Tariff Agreement FAQs

Question	Answer
1. When will the new tariff rates take effect?	<p>The Year 1 tariff increase is effective for services provided on or after April 1, 2022 and is a flat increase of \$0.25/hour, plus 3.24%. The new rates will apply to all services provided to clients on or after April 1, 2022.</p> <p>Lawyers can expect to see the new rates reflected in the LABC Tariffs and systems on January 1, 2023.</p>
2. When will I receive my retroactive payment for the tariff increase on services performed on or after April 1, 2022?	LABC will pay a one-time retroactive payment for all services rendered on or after April 1, 2022 that have already been invoiced prior to the tariff increase. Eligible tariff lawyers who have submitted invoices and have already been paid by LABC for their work can expect to receive the retroactive payment in January 2023.
3. How will I know which invoices I am receiving a retroactive payment for?	LABC will send you an email on the day the payment is deposited and a list of which invoices the retroactive payment is for. The list will include the invoice, number, client name and total fees.
4. Do services provided by an Alternate Service Provider (ASP) get the retroactive payment? How?	Yes, the retroactive payment will be calculated on qualifying ASP services. The retroactive payment will be paid to you. You are responsible for paying the ASP the correct portion.
5. Do services provided by articling students get the retroactive payment?	Yes, the payment will be calculated on qualifying ASP services.
6. Am I eligible for the \$150 professional development payment? When will I receive this money?	The one-time payment of \$150 will be paid to 550 eligible lawyers who have taken a minimum of 20 legal aid contracts OR have \$50,000 billings in a year. Eligibility was based on contracts issued and duty counsel attendances between December 1, 2021 and November 30, 2022. To receive the payment, eligible lawyers will need to attest that the money will be spent to support professional development.

	Lawyers can expect to receive the professional development payment in February 2023.
7. What if I have questions about the tariff increase or when to expect payment?	Contact your lawyer support team via email at <a href="mailto:lawyer.support@legalaid.bc.ca">lawyer.support@legalaid.bc.ca</a> or by phone at 604-601-6155 / 1-888-401-6206.
8. Can you provide details about the articling student program? How can I apply to get funding for an articling student?	<p>The articulated student program will run for Year 2 and Year 3 of the Agreement, beginning April 2023. The program will provide \$30,000 to each of 12 eligible firms to contribute to the overall cost of engaging an articulated student. Available criteria and details include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The engaged articulated student is expected to devote approximately 50% of their time to legal aid work.</li> <li>- Priority will be given to firms located outside Greater Vancouver Regional District (Metro Vancouver), Fraser Valley Regional District and Capital Regional District.</li> <li>- Twelve firms (including sole practitioners) will be recommended by ALL in consultation with LABC.</li> <li>- LABC will ensure that firms selected have billings that are sufficient to justify an articulated student, and that there have been no identified issues with compliance with LABC policies.</li> <li>- Consideration will be given to addressing underserved practice areas (especially family and child protection) and emphasizing candidates of diverse and underrepresented backgrounds.</li> <li>- Firms must be in good standing with the Law Society.</li> </ul> <p>Further details regarding the application process will be provided by the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers (ALL) at a later date.</p>
9. How do I access the Indigenous Travel Bursary Fund?	<p>The Indigenous Travel Bursary fund allocates \$500 per Indigenous legal aid lawyer per year to support travel to an out-of-town conference/in person training session relevant to the practice of legal aid, such as a national conference, Indigenous law conference or other training.</p> <p>To request payment of the Indigenous travel bursary fund, contact <a href="mailto:Lawyers.Resources@legalaid.bc.ca">Lawyers.Resources@legalaid.bc.ca</a></p>