

A "Flat Fee" is a fixed amount paid to a lawyer for specific, agreed-upon services, or for a fixed, agreed-upon stage in a representation, regardless of the time required of the lawyer to perform the service or reach the agreed-upon stage in the representation. For example, a client might hire a lawyer to draft a temporary motion for custody and parenting time and represent them at the subsequent hearing. Once the work associated with that hearing is completed, the arrangement is complete and the attorney withdraws her representation of the client. This kind of relationship is especially helpful when a client does not have the funds for a traditional attorney-client relationship but needs help in the court proceeding. This format differs from unbundled or limited-scope services in that the attorney will appear in court or /at the hearing with/on behalf of the client.

A Flat Fee agreement is also useful in certain areas of law. For example, Eckart Wostmann Wiese, LLC generally charges a flat fee for a bankruptcy proceeding. This is owing to the fact that bankruptcies generally follow a predetermined format and there are few surprises/court appearances.