

RATES

The chart below sets forth the general rates that will be paid to service providers for work performed on or after August 19, 2024, though rates may be adjusted in individual cases, consistent with current Central District CJA policies and procedures. Rates paid to experts are set individually in each case, within ranges set by the Ninth Circuit.

**CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
CJA SERVICE PROVIDER HOURLY RATES
(Effective August 19, 2024)**

Service Provider/Expert	Hourly Rate	Type of Tasks
Paralegal	\$75	All Tasks Performed & Travel Time
	\$85	Tasks Requiring Use of the Paralegal's Foreign Language Skill
Paralegal Lawyer	\$90	All Tasks Performed & Travel Time
	\$100	Tasks Requiring Use of the Paralegal Lawyer's Foreign Language Skill
Investigator	\$25 College Student	Records collection - this task should be delegated to a paralegal, law student, or college student on the defense team. Alternatively, if the investigator performs this task, it should be paid at the standard paralegal rate unless an investigator or attorney is required to perform this task in which case a higher rate can be paid. Note, however, that digital record collection requires a higher skill set, often mastering proprietary database searching tools, which should be paid at applicable investigator rates.
	\$35 Law Student	
	\$75 Paralegal	
	\$85	Routine Tasks & Travel Time
	\$105	Tasks Requiring Specialized Skills (a high level of investigative expertise relevant to the type of crime alleged or other special skills the case requires)
	\$120	Tasks Requiring Use of the Investigator's Foreign Language Skill
Mitigation Specialist (Non-Capital)	\$100	All tasks performed and travel time Associates paid at \$80
	\$110	Mitigation Specialist with relevant master's degree
	\$115	Mitigation Specialist with J.D. or relevant Ph.D.
	\$120	Proficient in a foreign language – paid per task when required

Mitigation Specialist (Capital)	\$125	Standard Mitigation Specialist Associates paid at \$85
	\$130	Mitigation Specialist with relevant master's degree
	\$140	Mitigation Specialist with J.D. or relevant Ph.D.
	\$150	Proficient in a foreign language – paid per task when required
	\$155	Mitigation Specialist with relevant master's degree proficient in a foreign language – paid per task when required
	\$160	Mitigation Specialist with J.D. or relevant Ph.D. proficient in foreign language – paid per task when required
Associate Counsel	\$100-\$137	See the Central District's Associate Counsel Policy . Rates set by years of practice
	\$100	1-2 Years
	\$105	2-3 Years
	\$110	3-4 Years
	\$116	4-5 Years
	\$121	5-6 Years
	\$126	6-7 Years
	\$131	7-8 Years
	\$137	8 Or more years
Experts	Rates Set Individually in Each Case within Ranges Approved by the Ninth Circuit (see below)	All Tasks Performed Except for Travel Time (which must be negotiated within the terms set forth by the Travel Time Policy summarized on the CACD CJA-02 Expert AUTH Form)
Interpreters/Translators		See interpreter and translation rates

**NINTH CIRCUIT APPROVED RATE RANGES
FOR EXPERT WITNESSES IN CJA CASES
(Effective August 19, 2024)**

Other Service Provider Categories		
Accident Reconstruction	\$150 – \$200	
Accountant	\$150 – \$300	
Accounting Staff (non-CPA)	\$65	e.g., reviewing/summarizing/preparing financial records
Attorney Expert – Capital	CJA Hourly Rate	
Attorney Expert – Non-Capital	CJA Hourly Rate	e.g., immigration law expert
Audio, Video, Photo Forensic Analyst	\$125 – \$200	
Audio, Video, Photo Technician	\$25 – \$100	e.g., creating video exhibits, taking or enlarging photos, enhancing audio or video recordings, etc.
Ballistics/Firearms Expert	\$150 – \$300	
Canine Expert	\$125 – \$200	
Chemist/Toxicologist (B.S. or Ph.D.)	\$150 – \$275	
Chemist/Toxicologist (M.D.)	\$275 – \$400	
Computer/Cellphone/Cellular Tower Forensic Analyst	\$175 – \$300	
Crime Scene/Police Practices/Use-of-Force Expert	\$150 – \$250	
DNA Expert (B.S. or Ph.D.)	\$150 – \$300	
Fingerprint Analyst	\$150 – \$250	
Gang Expert	\$150 – \$200	
Handwriting Analyst	\$100 – \$250	
Interpreter/Translator for in-person meetings	\$60 – \$80	Please see CACD Interpreter Rates
Jury Consultant	\$150 – \$225	
Law Student	\$25 – \$35	
Legal Analyst/Consultant (Non-Attorney)	\$75 – \$100	e.g., Sentencing Guidelines consultant.
Medical – Other (M.D. or D.O.)	\$275 – \$400	
Neurologist or Neuropsychiatrist (M.D.)	\$275 – \$400	

Neuropsychologist (Ph.D.)	\$250 – \$375	
Nurse (L.P.N. or R.N.)	\$100 – \$125	
Nurse (M.S.N. or D.N.P.)	\$150 – \$300	Including S.A.N.E. certified.
Pathologist/Medical Examiner	\$275 – \$400	
Pharmacist/Pharmacologist	\$200 – \$300	
Ph.D – Other	\$200 – \$300	
Polygraph	\$100 – \$250	Polygraph testing typically billed at a flat rate between \$500 – \$1,250
Psychiatrist (M.D.)	\$275 – \$400	
Psychologist (Ph.D.)	\$200 – \$300	
Translation – Foreign Language Document	Up to \$0.20 per word	Please see CACD Interpreter Rates
Certified transcription – English audio Contract court reporter rate (without foreign translation) for non-automated transcription services.	\$4.38 per page	NOTE: Whether for use in District Court or the Court of Appeals, requests for transcripts must be made by submitting an AUTH-24 form in eVoucher. Payment will be made on a CJA-24 form in eVoucher as created by the Court.
Certified transcription and translation combined – Foreign audio combined translation and transcription of foreign audio recordings are typically billed by the hour, not per word or page, for non-automated services. Rates vary based on language, interpreter certification, and recording quality.	\$35 – \$55	Please see CACD Interpreter Rates: Preapproval is required by the CJA Office. (For non-certified computer transcription, please contact the CJA Office for various service providers.)