

Case Budgeting Procedure

Once it is reasonably apparent to CJA counsel that the cost of representation for a defendant will likely exceed 150 attorney hours, the court may request development of a complete or staged budget for the defendant's representation. Cases that are expected to exceed approx. \$50,000 in total case costs **MUST** be budgeted. Case budgeting is accomplished with the assistance of the Ninth Circuit's (NCCA) Case Budgeting Attorney. (Note: The \$50,000 threshold can be a combination of 300 attorney hours or some combination of attorney time and expenses). Budgeting is also **mandatory** for capital cases.

Resources - Contacts

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Budget Submission

Case budgets should be prepared using a form that will be provided by the NCCA Case Budgeting Attorney. After consultation with the CBA, the completed budgeting form should be attached to an eVoucher CJA-26 and submitted to the court for approval of the additional funding request. Please inform the CJA Supervising Attorney when you are planning to contact the Circuit CBA to seek budgeting assistance.

CJA Guidelines

[Eastern Washington CJA Plan](#)

Eligible Non-Capital Representations [[Guide, Vol. 7, § 230.26](#)]

Capital Representations [[Guide, Vol. 7, § 640](#)]