

The Probate Timeline

Step	Duration
Prepare and File Petition for Probate	1-2 months
Court hearing on the Petition for Probate	2-3 months
The following are issued: Letters of Administration, Orders for Probate, Duties and Liabilities, Issue Bond (if ordered), & ** Letters Testamentary **	2-4 months (if not contested)
Notice to Creditors	2-4 months
Notice to Department of Health Services Inventory & Appraisement	4-8 months
Pay State and Federal Taxes (if necessary)	6-12 months
Allow or Reject Creditor Claims	
Possible Preliminary Distributions	
Notice to Department of Health Services (if deceased received medical)	
Notice to Franchise Tax Board (if heir is out of state)	
Claim of Exemption (if assets transfer to a minor)	6-15 months
Receive Final Tax Letter from State and Federal (if appropriate)	6-18 months
File Petition for Final Distribution and Accounting	8-16 months
Hearing on Petition for final Distribution and Accounting	
Order Approving Final Distribution and Accounting	
Distribution of Assets to Heirs	9-17 months
Final Discharge Order (indicates close of probate case)	9-18 months
Final Distribution of Funds	9-18 months