

59-3094. Costs of proceedings; payment. (a) In each proceeding the court shall allow and order paid to any individual or institution as a part of the costs thereof a reasonable fee and expenses for any professional services ordered performed by the court pursuant to this act other than those performed by any individual or institution under the jurisdiction of the Kansas department for children and families, but including the fee of counsel for the proposed ward or proposed conservatee or ward or conservatee when counsel is appointed by the court. The court may allow and order paid the fee of counsel for the petitioner and any respondent. Other costs and fees may be allowed and paid as are allowed by law for similar services in other cases. The costs shall be taxed to the estate of the proposed ward or proposed conservatee or ward or conservatee, to those bound by law to support the proposed ward or proposed conservatee or ward or conservatee, to other parties whenever it would be just and equitable to do so, or to the county of residence of the proposed ward or proposed conservatee or ward or conservatee as the court having venue shall direct.

(b) In any contested proceeding or matter the court, in its discretion, may require one or more parties to give security for the costs thereof, or in lieu thereof to file a poverty affidavit as provided for in the code of civil procedure.

(c) Any district court receiving a statement of costs from another district court shall approve the same for payment out of the general fund of its county except that it may refuse to approve the same for payment only on the grounds that the proposed ward or proposed conservatee or ward or conservatee is not a resident of that county. In such case it shall transmit the statement of costs to the secretary for children and families who shall determine the question of residence and certify those findings to each district court. If the claim for costs is not paid within 30 days after such certification, an action may be maintained thereon by the claimant county in the district court of the claimant county against the debtor county. The findings made by the secretary for children and families as to the residence of the proposed ward or proposed conservatee or ward or conservatee shall be applicable only to the assessment of costs. Any county of residence which pays from its general fund court costs to the district court of another county may recover the same in any court of competent jurisdiction from the estate of the proposed ward or proposed conservatee or ward or conservatee or from those bound by law to support the proposed ward or proposed conservatee or ward or conservatee, unless the court finds that the proceedings in which such costs were incurred were instituted without good cause and not in good faith.

History: L. 2002, ch. 114, § 45; L. 2014, ch. 115, § 230; July 1.