

How Much Will a DWI Cost in New Hampshire?

I am frequently asked "how much will a DWI cost me?" There are many variables in what the ultimate cost will be, but in short it will be very expensive. These costs include the need for alternative ways to get around or loss of employment which are impossible to factor into the ultimate cost.

It is my opinion that the best way to avoid the costs of a DWI is to not be convicted. The best way to avoid a conviction is to have zero tolerance, if you drink do not drive. However, if you have been arrested the second best way to avoid a conviction is to hire the best DWI lawyer based on reputation, experience, trial skill and knowledge. Can you afford not to have the best DWI defense lawyer? The costs listed below are an average based on information gathered in 2020 in Coos County, northern NH.

In conducting research on the cost of a DWI conviction, I found a source which stated the costs of a DWI conviction for a first-time offender with no accident would range from \$5,650 to \$24,245. Read more: The [True Costs of Drunk Driving](https://www.finder.com/cost-of-drunk-driving) <https://www.finder.com/cost-of-drunk-driving>; [The Financial Cost of a DUI](https://www.alcohol.org/dui/financial-cost/) <https://www.alcohol.org/dui/financial-cost/>

I am unsure what factors and costs are included in those national estimates, so I put together a list of expected costs for a DWI conviction in Northern NH. These figures are approximations using a reasonable estimate for a person who is convicted of a DWI.

In calculating the costs of a DWI in NH I found the following estimated costs:

Towing Fee	\$250
Bail comm fee	40
Lab analysis	150
ALS Transcript	250
Expert Fees	500-3,000 (Private investigator- Ph.D Toxicologist)
Lawyer fees	1500-7500 (Huge difference in cost based on experience and history)
Court fine	620-1200 (mandatory minimum to maximum)
ALS recording	25
Ignition interlock	200 initial
Monthly fee interlock	75/ month for min. 12 months up to 2 years
SR-22 required for 3 years	600-1000 annully (liability only, non owner policy)
Insurance increase for 5 years	9,500 (based on a married person, good credit history, newer vehicle, home owner, in Coos County, rates vary)

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IDCMP fees	860 (1 st time offender class)
Mointoring Treatment	60 per month (2 nd or Aggravated offender class)
28 Residential tx.	4935 (3 rd offender class)
License reinstatement	100

The total expected financial cost of a DWI for a person located in Coos County NH ranges between \$5,970.00 to \$17,000.00. The estimated financial cost does not include any lost income from missed work opportunities; need to pay for rides and transportation; loss of company vehicles or benefits. The range also cannot take into account the reality that there are no two people that are situated exactly alike. This means that the increased cost of insurance will vary incredibly based on prior history and projected risk factors calculated by insurance companies.

The one thing this range does establish is that the cost of a DWI conviction is very serious. If you have been charged with a DWI it is important that you consult with a DWI lawyer who has the experience, skills and ability to help win your case.

Please feel free to contact me, Leonard D. Harden, to discuss your case. You can reach me at my Lancaster office 603-788-2080; Littleton office 603-444-2084 or Lebanon office 603-448-3737 or on the web at <http://www.dwilawyer nh.net/> .