

# The Camden County Surrogate's Court

## Who can apply for Administration?

New Jersey Law defines who has the right to apply for Administration of an estate.

General administration is used when a resident of New Jersey dies intestate (without a will). It is the duty of the heir or the person desiring original letters of administration to make application to the Surrogate of the county in which the intestate **resided**.

For intestate estates, heirs according to the statute of descent and distribution have priority

1. Spouse or civil union partner
2. Adult children of the decedent
3. Guardian of minor issue first entitled, if no surviving spouse or adult children
4. Decedent's parents
5. Brothers and sisters
6. Grandparents
7. Aunts and uncles
8. Stepchildren
9. Creditors or others after 40 days

## PROCEDURE FOR APPOINTMENT OF ADMINSTRATOR

The applicant should appear in the Surrogate's Court with:

Proof of death

A detailed list of assets in deceased's name

An estimated of amount owing for debts and taxes

Names & addresses of next of kin (heirs at law).

You will be interviewed by a probate clerk to obtain the necessary information on the estate and who is entitled to appointment, after which the clerk shall prepare the following for signature.

Application for administration

Qualification/Authorization

Renunciations or proof of notice

Affidavit of estate assets

Bond (this is a surety bond required by statute and would have to be purchased by the applicant though an insurance company, bank, or other. The bond amount will be set by the Surrogate, but the annual cost is set by the company supplying the coverage.)

Verification of child support law

When filling out the information sheet, be sure to list heirs according to relationship. If the deceased was married with children of the same union and no children from previous relationships you only need to list spouse and children. If there were no children, parents of decedent get listed. If there were children of the decedent from another relationship they must be listed. We need to know the addresses of all the next of kin and if any of them are under the age of 18. The Probate Clerk will help you determine who falls into these categories.