




Seafood Inspection Program
 U.S. Department of Commerce
 1315 East-West Highway
 Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282
 USA



MEMORANDUM FOR: All Plants and Users of USDC Seafood Inspection Program Services

FROM: Steven Wilson 
 Deputy Director, Office of International Affairs and Seafood Inspection

SUBJECT: Notice of Change in Fees and Charges for the U.S. Department of Commerce Seafood Inspection Program--Effective February 1, 2017

Beginning February 1, 2017, the basic hourly fee for full-time, contracted, non-HACCP, inspection services provided by the USDC Seafood Inspection Program (Program) will be \$120.00 (which includes a corresponding increase of the overtime and holiday fees). This is an increase of approximately 7.1%. The fees for certificates will also increase to \$75 for contract customers (from \$65) and decrease to \$75 for non-contract customers (from \$120). These increases are a result from general cost increases for 2016. All other fees from the previous year remain the same.

This Program is not subsidized by appropriated funding and therefore relies entirely on fee-for-service income to fund its operating costs. The rate-setting methodology for 2017 for consultative services was the same as 2016. The rate for HACCP- QMP contracts did not increase. Fees will be charged to non-contract customers requesting services. However, this change from last year is a conscious decision to minimize changes in the rates from year to year. In order for this to occur, we have moved to a simpler rate system of one for contracts and one for non-contracts (with HACCP QMP contract rates being separated as per usual practice) that we started phasing in last year. Throughout the rest of this year, we will also improve our cost controls in a way where we strive for a better rate system for both audits and certificates. As we reach these goals, we will reach out to all users of the program for their input.

FEES AND CHARGES FOR USDC SEAFOOD INSPECTION PROGRAM

Effective February 1, 2017, per hour fees and charges for fishery products inspection services will be as follows:

Contract Rates

Regular time: Services provided during any 8-hour shift.
 Overtime: Services provided outside the inspector's normal work schedule.
 In addition to any hourly service charge, a night differential fee equal to 10 percent of the employee's hourly salary will be charged for each hour of service provided after 6:00 p.m. and before 6:00 a.m. A guarantee of payment is required for all contracts equal to three months of service or \$10,000, whichever is greater.

Non-Contract Rates

Regular time: Services provided within the inspector's normal work schedule, Monday through Friday.
 Overtime: Services provided outside the inspector's normal work schedule.

Contract Rates (non-HACCP)		All Non-Contract Work Rates	
REGULAR TIME	\$120.00	REGULAR TIME	\$180.00
OVERTIME	\$180.00	OVERTIME	\$270.00
SUNDAY & HOLIDAYS	\$240.00	SUNDAY & HOLIDAYS	\$360.00
HACCP/QMP Contracts			
HACCPREGULAR	\$280.00		
HACCP OVERTIME	\$420.00		
HACCP SUNDAY & HOLIDAYS	\$560.00		

Certificates

Certificate requests that do not require product inspections such as EU Health certificates, IUU Catch certificates, some health certificates to Canada and all requests from HACCP-QMP contracted establishments will be set a flat rate of \$75 per request. All certificates that require product inspection will be billed at the appropriate hourly rate as a part of the inspection.