



Fees and charges for biosecurity regulatory activity from 1 July 2024

Background

In 2024, the department will embed the annual review of regulatory charging and apply indexation to fees and charges. This approach to pricing aims to support ongoing sustainable funding for the biosecurity systems and avoid large price increases in the future.

Legislation

New prices for Biosecurity fees have been calculated using the methodology prescribed in the Biosecurity Regulation 2016, Chapter 9, Part 2, Division 1, Section 107A (indexation of fees).

New prices for charges have been calculated using the methodology prescribed in Part 2, Section 9A (indexation of charges) in Biosecurity Charges Imposition (Customs) Regulation 2016, and Part 2, Section 9A (indexation of charges), in the Biosecurity Charges Imposition (General) Regulation 2016.

Table 1 sets out the indexed prices for biosecurity activities commencing 1 July 2024.

Table 1 Indexed fees and charges for biosecurity regulatory activities

Type of charge	Charge point	Unit	Pre-indexed Price (\$)	Indexed Price (\$)
Charge (levy)	Full Import Declaration charge – air	Per import declaration	43	45
	Full Import Declaration charge – sea	Per import declaration	63	66
	Non-commercial vessel arrival charge	Per vessel	155	161
	Vessel, other than a non-commercial vessel arrival charge	Per vessel	1,354	1,410
	Permit application charge	Per application	122	127
	Approved arrangement application charge	Per application	194	202
	Approved arrangement – AEPCOMM entry	Per item	20	21
	Approved arrangement – single (Part year 50% of annual charge)	Per item	2,680	2,790
	Approved arrangement – multiple (Part year 50% of annual charge)	Per item	3,110	3,238
	Approved arrangement – class 19 (Part year 50% of annual charge)	Per item	536	558
	Reservation charge – horses	Per animal	983	1,023
	Confirmation of reservation charge – horses	Per animal	3,934	4,095
	Reservation charge – ruminants	Per animal	1,005	1,046
	Confirmation of reservation charge – ruminants	Per animal	4,019	4,184

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Type of charge	Charge point	Unit	Pre-indexed Price (\$)	Indexed Price (\$)
	Reservation charge – animal not covered by another item of this table (includes cat or dog)	Per animal	253	263
	Confirmation of reservation – animal not covered by another item of this table (includes cat or dog)	Per animal	1,012	1,053
	Reservation charge – bees	Per bee consignment	837	871
	Confirmation of reservation charge – bees	Per bee consignment	3,350	3,487
	Reservation of charge – avian (eggs for hatching)	Per hatching egg consignment	13,109	13,646
	Confirmation of reservation charge – avian (eggs for hatching)	Per hatching egg consignment	52,434	54,584
	Reservation charge – avian (live bird)	Per live bird consignment	4,707	4,900
	Confirmation of reservation charge – avian (live bird)	Per live bird consignment	18,827	19,599
	Importation charge – plants	Per m ² per month	291	303
Fee for service – inspection (including virtual inspections), examination, document assessment, analysis, diagnostic activity, clearance of cargo, treatment, audit, supervision, training	In-office fee during ordinary hours of duty.	Per 15 minutes	37	39
	Out-of-office fee during ordinary hours of duty.	Per 15 minutes	62	65
	Out-of-office fee during ordinary hours of duty.	Daily	1,221	1,271
	In-office fee outside ordinary hours on weekdays - when activity is provided immediately before or after ordinary hours.	Per 15 minutes	55	57
	In-office fee outside ordinary hours on weekdays - minimum charge when activity is not provided immediately before or after ordinary hours.	Per 30 minutes	110	114
	In-office fee outside ordinary hours on a weekend or departmental holiday.	Per 30 minutes	120	124
	In-office fee outside ordinary hours, after the first 30 minutes on a weekend or departmental holiday.	Per 15 minutes	60	62
	Out-of-office fee outside ordinary hours on weekdays when activity is provided immediately before or after ordinary hours only.	Per 15 minutes	80	83
	Out-of-office fee outside ordinary hours on weekdays - minimum charge when activity is not provided immediately before or after ordinary hours only.	Per 30 minutes	160	166

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Type of charge	Charge point	Unit	Pre-indexed Price (\$)	Indexed Price (\$)
	Out-of-office fee outside ordinary hours on a weekend or departmental holiday.	Per 15 minutes	85	88
	Out-of-office fee outside ordinary hours on a weekend or departmental holiday - minimum of 30 minutes followed by the per 15-minute rate thereafter.	Per 30 minutes	170	176
	Assessment of a permit application not completed within the initial assessment period for the application - in ordinary hours.	Per 15 minutes after the initial assessment period	37	39
	Assessment of a permit application fee outside ordinary hours on a weekday - in addition to the initial assessment fee when activity is provided immediately before or after ordinary hours.	Per 15 minutes	18	19
	Assessment of a permit application fee outside ordinary hours on a weekday - in any other case, a minimum of 30 minutes applies followed by the per 15-minute rate thereafter, in addition to the initial assessment fee.	Per 30 minutes	36	38
	Assessment of a permit application fee outside ordinary hours, on a weekend or departmental holiday - in addition to the initial assessment fee for the first 30 minutes.	Per 30 minutes	46	48
	Assessment of a permit application fee outside ordinary hours on a weekend or departmental holiday - a minimum of 30 minutes applies followed by the per 15-minute rate, thereafter, charged in addition to the initial assessment fee.	Per 15 minutes	23	24
Fee for service – temporary storage in relation to international travellers and their baggage	Temporary storage at premises owned or managed by the Commonwealth, of baggage brought into Australian territory.	Per 30 days per piece of baggage	45	47
Fee for service – special processing areas, agreed fee in relation to international travellers and their baggage	Any period up to 3 hours during which one or more fee bearing activities are carried out.	First 3 hours for each person carrying out those activities	At least 516 but not more than 1,032	At least 537 but not more than 1,074
	Immediately following the first 3 hours during which those activities are carried out.	Per 15 minutes immediately following first 3 hours for each person carrying out those activities	At least 43 but not more than 86	At least 45 but not more than 90

Type of charge	Charge point	Unit	Pre-indexed Price (\$)	Indexed Price (\$)
Fee for service – husbandry	Husbandry fee – horses that overstay the initial 14-day period	Per animal per day over 14 days	44	46
	Husbandry fee – ruminants	Per animal per day	101	105
	Husbandry fee – animal not covered by another item of this table (includes cat or dog)	Per animal per day	50	52
	Husbandry fee – avian (eggs for hatching)	Per egg consignment per day	76	79
	Husbandry fee – avian (consignment of birds)	Per live bird consignment per day	57	59
	Husbandry fee – bees	Per bee consignment monthly	469	488
	Husbandry fee – plants	Per m ² per month	60	62
Fee for service— assessment of permit application	Assessment Category 1 Permit application	Each application	74	77
	Assessment Category 2 Permit application	Each application	148	154
	Assessment Category 3 Permit application	Each application	296	308
	Assessment Category 4 Permit application	Each application	444	462
	Assessment Category 5 Permit application	Each application	592	616

Price calculation methodology

Indexation provisions in biosecurity legislation, include the following methodology for calculating whether the ‘*indexation factor*’ is to increase the dollar amounts imposed for specified fees or charges from 1 July 2024:

Box 1 Calculating if the indexation factor will increase fees or charges

Step 1 – calculate the ‘indexation factor’ for 1 July 2024

The indexation factor for 1 July 2024 is worked out using the following formula:

The [All-Groups Consumer Price Index \(CPI\) number published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics](#) for the 2023 December quarter divided by the CPI for the 2022 December quarter.

CPI for the 2023 December quarter (reference quarter) = **136.1**

CPI for the 2022 December quarter (base quarter) = **130.8**

Indexation factor calculation = **136.1 ÷ 130.8**

The indexation factor for July 2024 is 1.041

Box 2 Calculating the indexed amount

Step 2 – calculate the ‘indexed amount’ for the fee or charge in question

Because the indexation factor for 1 July 2024 is greater than 1, fees and charges covered by an indexation provision will be indexed in accordance with the following formula:

The dollar amount of the relevant fee or charge immediately before 1 July 2024

multiplied by

The indexation factor for 1 July 2024 (1.041)

The indexed amount of the fee or charge is to the nearest whole dollar rounding 50 cents upwards.

Example Price calculations for fees and charges subject to indexation

Scenario 1, Scenario 2 and Scenario 3 set out examples of how new prices are calculated where a dollar value is prescribed in legislation.

Scenario 1 Price calculation of full Import declaration charge for air cargo

Pre-indexed price for full import declaration charge for air cargo	\$43
Indexation factor	1.041
Calculation of new price	\$43 x 1.041
Price after indexation	\$44.76
New price (rounded to the nearest whole dollar)	\$45

Scenario 2 Price calculation of a category 3 permit assessment fee

Pre-indexed price for category 3 permit assessment fee	\$296
Indexation factor	1.041
Calculation of new price	\$296 x 1.041
Price after indexation	\$308.13
New price (rounded to the nearest whole dollar)	\$308

Scenario 3 Price calculation of application charge to enter into an approved arrangement

Pre-indexed price for an approved arrangement application charge	\$194
Indexation factor	1.041
Calculation of new price	\$194 x 1.041
Price after indexation	\$201.95
New price (rounded to the nearest whole dollar)	\$202

Example calculation of prices where no dollar value is prescribed

Where a provision in legislation does not specify a dollar value, and the amount payable is set by reference to a percentage the new price is calculated by working out the indexed price for the full amount and then applying the prescribed percentage. An example is provided in Scenario 4.

Scenario 4 Part year charge for a single approved arrangement

The annual charge that applies to enter into a single approved arrangement, where it has been applied for prior to 1 January in a financial year (full year) is currently \$2,680.

If a person applies to enter into an arrangement after 1 January in a financial year (part year), the current charge is 50% of the full year charge, which is \$1,340.

The indexed rate for the annual charge for a full year is calculated as follows:

Pre-indexed price multiplied by the indexation factor = $\$2,680 \times 1.041$

Price after indexation = $\$2,789.88$

New price rounded to the nearest whole dollar = $\$2,790$

The new price to enter into a single approved arrangement for a part year is 50% of the annual charge for a full year = $\$1,395$.

Where a provision in legislation does not specify a dollar value, and the amount payable is set by reference to *'twice the amount'* for a quarter hour increment, the new price is calculated by working out the indexed price for the quarter hour and then multiplying it by 2 an example is provided in Scenario 5.

Scenario 5 Non-continuous inspection on a weekday outside ordinary hours of duty

Where the department performs an inspection on a weekday outside ordinary hours of duty for each person carrying out the inspection the current rates that apply are:

If the inspection is carried out immediately before or immediately after an in-office activity during ordinary hours of duty— $\$55$ for each quarter hour or part of a quarter hour.

If the inspection is not carried out immediately before or immediately after an in-office activity during ordinary hours of duty, a minimum fee for 30-minutes applies, which is set at an amount that is *'twice the dollar amount'* specified for each quarter hour or part of a quarter hour.

The indexed rate for the minimum 30 minutes where the activity is not continuous is calculated as follows:

New price for each quarter hour or part of a quarter hour = $\$55 \times 1.041$

New price for the quarter hour = $\$57.26$

New price rounded to the nearest whole dollar = $\$57$

When an inspection is not carried out immediately before or immediately after an in-office activity during ordinary hours of duty the rate that applies is for a minimum of 30 minutes.

The rate that applies for the 30-minute period is *'twice the amount'* specified for each quarter hour.

The new price for this 30-minute period = $2 \times \$57 = \114 .

More information

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

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