



Fees and charges for imported food regulatory activity from 1 July 2024

Introduction

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 imported food chargeable services have been calculated using the methodology prescribed in the Imported Food Control Regulations 2019, Part 4, Section 30A (indexation of charges).

New prices for charges have been calculated using the methodology prescribed in Part 2, Section 6A – (indexation of charges) in the Imported Food Charges (Imposition – Customs) Regulation 2015 and in Part 2, Section 6A (Indexation of charges) in the Imported Food Charges (Imposition - General) Regulation 2015.

Table 1 sets out the indexed prices for imported food regulatory activities commencing 1 July 2024.

Table 1 Indexed fees and charges for imported food 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
	Compliance agreement application charge	Per application	194	202
	Compliance agreement – single (Part year 50% of annual charge)	Per item	2,680	2,790
	Compliance agreement – multiple (Part year 50% of annual charge)	Per item	3,110	3,238
Fee for chargeable service – issue of approval or other relevant documentation, inspection, treatment, audit, analysis, 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

Type of charge	Charge point	Unit	Pre-indexed Price (\$)	Indexed Price (\$)
	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
	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

Price calculation methodology

Indexation provisions in imported food control 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

Scenarios 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	$\$43 \times 1.041$
Price after indexation	\$44.76
New price (rounded to the nearest whole dollar)	\$45

Scenario 2 Price calculation for 15 minute in office document assessment

Pre-indexed price for 15-minute increment – in office document assessment	\$37
Indexation factor	1.041
Calculation of new price	$\$37 \times 1.041$
Price after indexation	\$38.51
New price (rounded to the nearest whole dollar)	\$39

Scenario 3 Price calculation of application charge to enter into a compliance agreement

Pre-indexed price for a compliance agreement application charge	\$194
Indexation factor	1.041
Calculation of new price	$\$194 \times 1.041$
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 compliance agreement, 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 agreement 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 compliance agreement 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

Learn more about our [fees and charges](#)

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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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