

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding New \$2 Fee

GENERAL INFO

What is changing and when?

Effective January 1, 2014, business entities will be charged a \$2 fee for each record returned.

When and why did this change?

Bill number 5182 was passed by the Legislature and signed into law by the Governor during the 2013 Legislative Session. The revised law is effective January 1, 2014 and the \$2 fee is required by the revised law.

Where does the money go?

The money is deposited into the Highway Safety Account.

BILLING

When and how will I be charged the fee?

This \$2 per record fee will be included on your IVIPS bill. You will see the new fee on your bill starting in 2014 for every record you access on or after January 1, 2014. Starting in January 2014, IVIPS bills will be sent every month.

Does the \$2 fee replace the 4 cent fee?

No. The 4 cent fee is for use of the IVIPS system and is charged for every inquiry. The \$2 fee is in addition to the 4 cent per inquiry fee and is charged each time a record is returned on IVIPS. An inquiry may result in a 4 cent fee but no \$2 fee. This could happen when you search for a record and receive "no record found".

Who is required to pay the \$2 fee?

Businesses are required to pay the \$2 fee per record. Government agencies are exempt from the \$2 fee.

Who is required to pay the 4 cent fee?

The 4 cent fee applies to all IVIPS users, including Government agencies.

Will the deposit amount increase?

No. Eventually, the Department will no longer require and collect deposits. If you have already paid a deposit, the deposit will either be refunded to you or credited to your account when this change is implemented.

Can I avoid the \$2 per record fee if I make a public disclosure request instead of using IVIPS?

No. The fee is required any time a vehicle owner name and address record is provided to a business, regardless of how the request was made and how the record was provided. Businesses making requests using the Vehicle/Vessel Information Disclosure Request form will also be required to pay \$2 per record starting January 1, 2014.

Will my IVIPS contract be changed and when?

Yes. Upon approval of your contract renewal, an updated contract will be issued which includes information about the new fee.

SPECIAL SITUATIONS

What if my search displays the wrong record (not the record I was looking for)?

You will be charged 4 cents for the inquiry and \$2 for the record returned. Businesses must pay for each record returned; there are no exceptions for situations where the record returned wasn't the record you were hoping to find. "Wrong records" could be the result of several different situations, including: incorrect plate or VIN entered into your search; a typo in your search; or change of ownership (owner isn't who you were looking for).

What happens if my search doesn't return a record?

You will be charged 4 cents for the inquiry; you will not be charged \$2 because no record was returned. The 4 cent fee is for use of the system and applies to every inquiry, including inquiries which result in "no record found".

What happens if my search returns multiple records?

You will be charged 4 cents for the inquiry; you will not be charged \$2 for viewing a list of potential matches. If you click on a record from the list, that specific vehicle record is then displayed in IVIPS and you will be charged \$2 for viewing that record.

What if I search for the same record more than once?

Each time you do a search and a record is returned, you will be charged 4 cents for the inquiry and \$2 for the record returned. This applies even if you search for the same record multiple times.

Why doesn't government have to pay the \$2 fee?

The revised version of RCW 46.12.635, effective January 1, 2014, specifically exempts government from paying the fee.

MORE INFORMATION

Where can I learn more about the changes to RCW 46.12.635?

Read more online about [Substitute Senate Bill 5182](#) and [RCW 46.12.635](#).

Who else can I talk to about this change?

If you have questions about your IVIPS account or IVIPS contract, call the IVIPS Team at 359-4001.

To contact the Legislature, go to <http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature/pages/contactus.aspx>.