



Steve Troxler  
Commissioner

North Carolina Department of Agriculture  
and Consumer Services  
*Standards Division*

Stephen Benjamin  
Director

August 24, 2005

**MEMORANDUM**

To: NC Standards Laboratory Customers

From: Stephen Benjamin

Subject: Fees Charged by the North Carolina Standards Laboratory

Effective September 1, 2005, the fees charged by the North Carolina Standards Laboratory will increase as indicated on the attached fee schedule. This fee increase is a part of the State budget recently passed by the legislature. It will be the first increase since the laboratory fees were first implemented in 1992 and was proposed as a portion of the budget reductions requested of the Department by the legislature. The fee increase will provide a way to avoid reductions in service to the citizens of North Carolina.

In addition to the actual fee changes, several changes in the way fees are charged should be noted. These include:

- 1) There is now a minimum charge of \$25.00 per invoice to cover the cost of the administrative and quality assurance tasks required in generating an invoice.
- 2) If the weight error exceeds three-fourths (75%) of the applicable tolerance, adjustment may be required at an additional fee equal to either:
  - a) The normal calibration fee for ASTM International Standard E617 Class 4 and other tolerances less stringent than E617 class 4 (including NIST class F) or,
  - b) Two times the normal calibration fee for tolerances more stringent than E617 Class 4.
- 3) The fee for tests performed on weights or measures that will be used primarily outside of the State of North Carolina will be double those charged for standards used in North Carolina.
- 4) A registration fee of \$20.00 will be charged for all scale technician registrations. This will be effective for all new applicants or renewals after September 1, 2005.
- 5) Fees will now be charged for all volume calibrations, regardless of where the volume standards will be used. Volume standard calibrations include hand held test measures, bottom drain test measures, open neck provers, LPG pressurized provers, and dynamic small volume provers (SVPs).

We realize these increases will pose some hardships. However, we feel that increasing fees is a better alternative than reducing services to our customers and the citizens of North Carolina. Our fees are still very reasonable compared to those currently charged by other State and private calibration laboratories. We will continue to strive to provide the best calibration services possible to all of our customers. The fee schedule is also available on our website: <http://www.ncagr.com/standard/sections/fees.htm>. Thank you and please feel free to call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Stephen Benjamin  
Director, Standards Division  
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