

From: [Peter, Stephen T - DATCP](#)
To: [Lauree Aulik](#)
Subject: RE: Weights & Measures Questions (City of Dodgeville)
Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 3:27:43 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Lauree,

Unfortunately, we do not have a model ordinance.

A flat fee might be something like each business pays the same amount. The city fee for FY2025 is \$3,000 and that cost would be divided among all of the regulated businesses, but it is not very equitable because some businesses have more items to inspect and take longer to inspect than others. Should a deli with one scale pay the same fee as a grocery store? This method has the advantage of little change in the annual billing.

A flat fee could also be based on the number of weights and measures devices a business has. For example, if the total device count in the municipality was 200 measuring devices, the \$3000 could be divided by the 200 devices and each device would be billed \$15 per device. So, if a grocery store has 20 scales, they would pay \$300 annually while a deli with one scale would pay \$15 annually. This is probably the most common method, but this method also creates some inequities but has the advantage of being relatively stable with little to no change annually.

In my opinion, the most equitable method would be invoicing based on the actual time spent by inspectors performing the work.

We could provide a report that shows how much time was spent at each individual business (in 15-minute increments) and the total inspection time could be the basis for billing. For example, at \$150.00 per hour, a 15-minute inspection would cost \$37.50, and a 3-hour inspection would cost \$450.00. This method would also capture time spent on non-device type inspections like scanner price verification inspections and package net quantity inspections that could be missed when using a device count method.

There may be different methods in use, but these are the methods I'm most familiar with.

I hope this helps,

Stephen Peter
Manager, Field Operations Section
Division of Trade and Consumer Protection
Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection
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Please refer general questions to the DATCP WM Compliance Email Box at:
DATCPWMCompliance@wisconsin.gov

Please fill out our [customer survey](#) to help us improve. Thank you!

From: Lauree Aulik <clerk@dodgevillewi.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 11:17 AM
To: Peter, Stephen T - DATCP <Stephen.Peter@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Weights & Measures Questions (City of Dodgeville)

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Hi Stephen,

I believe I spoke with you this spring about charging for Weights and measures inspections. You had told me that we can charge a flat fee or we could charge based on a figure DATCP could provide related to actual cost per facility. I'm wondering if I can speak with you regarding what that would like. I'm also wondering if you have a model ordinance that we can consider adopting should we start choosing to charge in 2025.

Thanks for your help,

Lauree Aulik

**Clerk/Treasurer
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Population: 5,073**

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