

**AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING THOSE PORTIONS OF THE CHARLESTON COUNTY CODE SECTION
2-137 DEALING WITH FEES IN THE BUILDING INSPECTION SERVICES
DEPARTMENT**

Section 1.0. Purpose of Amendment, Finding

WHEREAS, several activities of the County has caused conflicts in requirements and terminologies which has caused a need to update and clarify several appropriate fee applications and

WHEREAS, the update proposed provides an opportunity to consolidate and simplify the use and understanding of the fee ordinance by modifying ordinance formatting.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by Charleston County Council, in meeting duly assembled, as follows:

Section 2.0. Text Change:

1. Contractor License / Registration Fees

License / Registration Application Fee	\$50.00
License / Registration Fee	\$50.00
Annual License / Registration Renewal Fee	\$50.00
Existing Journeyman Annual License Renewal Fee	\$25.00
Change License or Registration classification (other than at renewal time)	\$25.00

2. Permit Fees Based on Construction Valuations For All Permits Except For Those Listed In 4 Through 8 Below

Total Valuation	Fee
\$1,000.00 and less	No fee, unless an inspection is required, in which case a permit is required and a \$50.00 fee shall be charged.
\$1,000 to \$2,000	\$50.00
\$2,001 to \$15,000	\$50.00 for the first \$2,000 + \$3.00 per \$1,000
\$15,001 to \$50,000	\$100.00 for the first \$15,000 + \$4.00 per \$1,000
\$50,001 to \$100,000	\$240.00 for the first \$50,000 + \$3.50 per \$1,000
\$100,001 to \$500,000	\$415 for the first \$100,000 +3.35 per \$1,000
\$500,001 and up	\$1,755 for the first \$500,000 + \$2.50 per \$1,000

3. Mechanical Permit Fees

- a. Fees for inspecting heating, ventilating, ductwork, air conditioning and refrigeration, and repairs, alterations and additions to an existing system shall be per the fee schedule for permits based on construction valuations.

4. Electrical Permit Fees

New or Upgrade Service and alterations or additions on the load side of existing meter and connection to existing service or safety inspection and electrical load at each meter location (expressed in amperes), up to 200 amps, the fee shall be \$70.00 plus \$0.10 per each additional amp.

5. Gas Permit Fees

- a. The permit fee for consumer's gas piping at one location (including both rough and final piping inspection) shall be \$50.00, plus \$2.00 for each outlet.

6. Plumbing Permit Fees

- a. The permit fee for plumbing systems shall be \$50.00
- b. Additional fixture permit fees are as follows:
 - 1. For each plumbing fixture, or tap (including water and drainage piping), backflow protective devices and for each water heater \$3.00 each
 - 2. For each building / unit sewer or water service, or replacement / repair, for installation, alteration or repair of water piping and/or water treating equipment and for repair or alteration of drainage or vent piping \$5.00 each

7. Manufactured Housing Permit Fees

For setup on a new or existing site \$100.00

Note: Fees for modular construction as defined by the South Carolina Modular Construction Act shall be based upon the fee schedule for permits based on construction valuations.

8. Inspection Fees

- (1) Re-inspection When a reinspection fee is required, an additional fee of \$50.00 will be charged for each inspection.
- (2) Minimum Permit or Inspection Fee \$ 50.00

(3) Floodplain Management Compliance Inspection \$75.00

9. Other Permit Fees

(1) Trade Permit Fee when the contractor is working as a subcontractor \$25.00

Notes:

1. When trade permits are issued for work being done as the prime contractor, the fees shall be as above for the appropriate type of work being performed.
2. Prime contractors permitted and performing sub-contractor work utilizing their full-time regular hourly employees will be issued trade permits with no fee.

(2) Hazardous Occupant Permits \$100.00

(3) Fireworks Stand Permits \$50.00

(4) Structural Moving Permit Fee \$100.00

(5) Demolition Permit Fee \$50.00

10. Fees

(1) Plan Review Fees ½ permit fee based on construction valuations

(2) Construction in Flood Zones / Filing Fee \$20.00

Note: If a prime contractor has paid a Flood Zone filing fee, the sub-contractor working for the prime contractor will not be charged an additional filing fee.

(3) Fees for replacement of placards shall be \$25.00

(4) Variance / Appeal Application Fee \$100.00

Note: Application fees for appeals successfully granted by the Construction Board of Adjustment & Appeals shall be reimbursed to the applicant.

(5) Vehicle Decal Fee \$6.00/vehicle/set

(6) Annual Vehicle \$3.00

11. Penalties

Where work for which a permit is required by this Code is started or proceeded prior to obtaining said permit, the fees herein specific shall be doubled, but the payment of such double fee shall not relieve any persons from fully complying with the requirements of this Code in the execution of work nor from any other penalties prescribed herein.

12. Effective dates; severability

This ordinance shall be effective immediately following approval at third reading. The changes in the Building Inspection Services fees shall be effective as of approval of third reading.

If any provision of this ordinance or its application to any circumstance is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, this holding does not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are severable.