

Dear Multnomah County Licensed Operators,

We are writing to let you know the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners approved an inspection fee increase. The approved 2026 fee schedule will go into effect starting January 1, 2026. Your invoices this fall will reflect the new fees.

State law requires Multnomah County to license and regularly inspect businesses. This includes restaurants, food carts, hotels/motels, pools and spas, and temporary food events. Environmental Health Services is also required to cover costs through fees. Your license fees only cover inspection services and cannot be used to pay for other programs.

We know how hard fee increases can be and we think it is important for you to know why this increase is necessary. Fee increases were delayed for several years due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on our local business community. Fees have stayed the same since 2020. Like you, our costs of doing business have increased over the last five years. Fees must go up in order to cover this increase.

Please know we will continue to have payment options to help reduce the impact of this increased business expense. More information will be available about this option with your invoice in November.

Updated information about the health inspection program and licensing fees can be found on <u>our website</u>. We <u>welcome your feedback</u> and will work to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

Multnomah County Environmental Health

