

No. 2025-1 October 29, 2025

Subject: NIGC Fee Rate and Fingerprint Processing Fee

This bulletin explains the National Indian Gaming Commission's (NIGC) annual fee rates for Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26). The annual fee rates are effective November 1, 2025, and will remain in effect until the Commission adopts new rates.

The NIGC has adopted its annual fee rates of 0.00% for tier 1 and 0.08% (.0008) for tier 2, which remain the same as current fee rates. These rates shall apply to all assessable gross revenues from each gaming operation under the jurisdiction of the Commission. If a tribe has a certificate of self-regulation under 25 C.F.R. part 518, the fee rate on Class II revenues shall be 0.04% (.0004) for tier 2, which is one-half of the annual fee rate.

Unlike other federal agencies that receive Congressionally appropriated funding, the NIGC receives quarterly payments from Tribes equal to one quarter of their gaming operation's reported annual fee assessment. In addition to funding the Agency's FY26 operating budget, the Commission must also maintain an adequate transition carryover balance to cover any cash flow variations resulting from the timing difference of fee receipt and operational payments in order to guarantee the Agency's continuity of operations.

Pursuant to 25 C.F.R. § 514.4, please be sure to use the appropriate fiscal year as the base period for determining fee payments. Please note that the new regulations define the fiscal year used in calculating the annual fee so that one fee rate is applied consistently to a gaming operation's assessable gross revenues for one fiscal year.

NIGC Fingerprint Fee Rate

Pursuant to 25 C.F.R. § 514.16, the National Indian Gaming Commission has set its Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) fingerprint processing fee at \$44 per card, which remains the same as current fingerprint processing fee. The annual fingerprint processing fee is effective November 1, 2025, and will remain in effect until the Commission adopts a new rate. NIGC will publish the fee rate and fingerprint fees in the Federal Register and post them to the NIGC website as soon as they are available.

In FY26, the Commission will continue its commitment to take necessary measures to comply with the FBI CJIS requirements which ensure the NIGC and participating tribes can continue to use FBI criminal history report information (CHRI) to assist in determining a key employee or primary management official's eligibility for a gaming license.

Fee and Fingerprint Processing Fee Payments

On March 25, 2025, the President issued Executive Order 14247, "Modernizing Payments To and From America's Bank Account" which "mandat[ed] the transition to electronic payments for all Federal disbursements and receipts by digitizing payments." To ensure compliance with this EO, the NIGC is in the process of phasing out paper check receipts and transitioning to receiving all payments via Pay.gov, a secure digital method. Along with other Federal Government bureaus and agencies, all payments made to the NIGC shall be submitted and processed electronically using the Pay.gov website.

The NIGC implemented an electronic payment system through Pay.gov in 2014 for the submission of fee payments. Subsequently, in 2023, the NIGC offered the Pay.gov payment option for the submission of fingerprint payments. Pay.gov is an electronic payment web portal offered by the United States Department of Treasury's Bureau of the Fiscal Service. Pay.gov allows individuals, states, and businesses to make online non-tax-related payments to the federal government. Since the implementation of Pay.gov, we are pleased to observe a growing number of tribes and gaming operations utilizing the Pay.gov platform to remit payments electronically every year. The Pay.gov web portal has demonstrated its effectiveness in providing a convenient, secure, and reliable method for processing payments. Please visit the Commission's website at www.nigc.gov for details on how to sign into the system, information required for submission, and how to change and correct submissions.

Should you have any questions, please contact Yvonne Lee, National Indian Gaming Commission, 1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop #1621, Washington, DC 20240; telephone (202) 632-7003; fax (202) 632-7066; email fee questions@nigc.gov.