

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### ***Separation of Official Establishments***

Each official establishment shall be separate and distinct from any unofficial establishment. Inspection will not be granted in any building in which any part of it is used as living quarters, unless the part for which inspection is requested is separated from such quarters by floors, walls, and ceilings of solid concrete, brick, wood, or similar material, and the floors, walls, and ceilings are without openings that communicate directly or indirectly with any part of a building used as living quarters.

See – CFR Parts [305.1](#), [305.2](#) and [381.26](#).

### ***Inauguration of Inspection***

Prior to the inauguration of inspection, an examination of the establishment and premises will be made by inspection personnel.

See – CFR Parts [305.4](#) and [381.27](#)

### ***Inspection Office***

Office space shall be provided by official establishments, rent free, for the exclusive official of the inspector and other FSIS employees assigned to the establishment.. The space set aside for this purpose shall meet with approval of the frontline supervisor. This space should be suitable for the storage of program supplies and for Inspection program personnel to change clothes if such clothes changing facilities are deemed necessary by the frontline supervisor. Laundry service for Inspection program personnel's outer work clothing shall be provided by each establishment. At the discretion of the Administrator, small plants requiring the services of less than one full time inspector need not furnish facilities for FSIS employees as prescribed in this section, where adequate facilities exist in a nearby convenient location.

See – CFR Parts [307.1](#), [307.2](#), [307.3](#), [381.27](#) and [381.36\(a\)](#)

## ***Hours of Operation***

The operator of the official establishment shall inform the inspector in charge (IIC) when work in each department has been concluded for the day, and provide the IIC with the day and hour when work will be resumed by the establishment. Whenever any product is to be overhauled or otherwise handled during unusual hours, the establishment operator shall notify the IIC a reasonable time in advance of the day and hour when such work will begin and such product shall not be handled prior to that time. No department, in which operations are being conducted, that requires inspection, will be operated except under the supervision of an FSIS employee. Prior to the initial start of operations, you will be asked to provide a written schedule of the establishment's your hours of operation. The frontline supervisor for your area will contact you for that information. See – CFR Parts [307.4](#) and [381.37](#)

## ***Inspection Charges***

Inspection service is provided free of charge for the first 8 hours per shift consecutive days (Sunday through Saturday). Any work conducted over 8 hour shift, or any time past the initial 5 consecutive day period, will be charged to the plant at the prevailing hourly overtime rate. If the operator of the establishment requests inspection during odd hours, a minimum of 2 hours will be charged to the plant at the above rate. This rate is also charged if the plant works on any Federal holiday. Federal holidays are the first day of January, the third Monday of January, the third Monday of February, the last Monday of May, the fourth day of July, the first Monday of September, the second Monday of October, the eleventh day of November, the fourth Thursday of November, the twenty-fifth day of December and any other day designated as a holiday by Federal statute or Executive Order. When any of the above listed holidays fall on a weekday, that day becomes a holiday. When a holiday falls on a Saturday, the preceding work day (Friday) becomes a holiday. When a holiday falls on a Sunday, the next work day (Monday) becomes a holiday.

See – CFR Parts [307.5](#), [307.6](#), [381.38](#) and [381.39](#)

## ***Hours of Duty***

The maximum time a slaughter inspector may be assigned daily to a post mortem inspection position is 10 hours per day, and the inspector shall not work more than a total of 12 hours per day. The 10 hour post mortem time, does not include time spent before and after slaughter operations, conducting ante-mortem, sanitation, and offal inspection; supervising disposal of condemned material, and preparing reports. Processing assignments shall not be more than 12 hours per day. Time used for meals is not included in counting the above hours. Lunch periods shall not be less than 30 minutes nor more than one hour. Lunch periods shall begin between the fourth and fifth hour of duty.

See – CFR Parts [307.4](#) and [381.37](#)

## ***Withdrawal of Inspection***

Inspection may be withdrawn from an establishment where the sanitary conditions are such that its products are rendered adulterated, or for failure of the operator to destroy condemned products as required by the Act and regulations.

The assignment of inspectors may be temporarily suspended, in whole or in part, to the extent it is determined necessary to avoid impairment of the effective conduct of the program when the operator of any official establishment or any subsidiary therein, or any officer, employee, or agent of any such operator, or agency, threatens to forcibly assault or forcibly assaults, intimidates, or interferes with any FSIS employee in or on account of the performance of his/her official duties.

The inspector in charge can withhold inspection (conditional withdrawal or suspension) and notify the establishment.

See - [Directive 5220.1](#)