

Frequently Asked Questions

Annual Small Entity Certification

What is it?

Licensees that meet the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) size standards for a small entity must complete [NRC Form 526](#) in order to qualify for a reduced annual fee. PLEASE CAREFULLY READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE BACK OF NRC FORM 526 BEFORE COMPLETING THE FORM.

What are the NRC size standards?

The size standards are established under Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations ([10 CFR](#)) [2.810](#). In [10 CFR 171.16\(c\)](#), the NRC has established two tiers of fees for licensees that qualify as a small entity under the NRC's size standards.

If we qualified last year, why is this year's invoice for the full amount?

Because a licensee's "size" or the NRC "size standards" and fees may change from year to year, a new form is required for **each year** and for **each invoice you receive**. The invoice reflects the full fee amount and licensees must complete and return to the NRC a new NRC Form 526 in order for the fee to be reduced to the small entity fee.

If we qualify, will we receive a new invoice for the reduced amount?

You will not receive a new invoice. Mail the completed form, the payment for the appropriate small entity fee, and the last page of the invoice (remittance page) to the address listed on the remittance page.

We have more than one annual fee category listed on page two of our invoice. Do we pay the small entity fee for each fee category?

The small entity fee is required for **each fee category** listed on page two of your invoice. However, if the full cost annual fee category amount on your invoice is less than the small entity fee amount, you should pay the amount on your invoice for that fee category.

We qualify as a small entity and sent the small entity payment to the address listed on the invoice. Why did we receive a "Notice of Dunning" stating that we owe the full annual fee amount?

This may happen if:

- You did not send the NRC Form 526 with your payment

- You sent the NRC Form 526 but your form was incomplete
- You sent the NRC Form 526 but after review, the NRC determined you did not qualify as a small entity
- The Notice of Dunning may have been issued before your payment and Form 526 were recorded in NRC's accounting system

We do not qualify as a small entity. Should we complete the form?

Licensees that do not meet the NRC's size standards for a small entity should disregard NRC Form 526.