

Inspection Fees Q & A

Why is San Diego County Fire inspecting my property?

San Diego County Fire completes annual inspections of all businesses and commercial facilities, along with educational and institutional facilities, camps, apartment and condominium complexes and high-rises. These inspections are completed to ensure each facility complies with fire code requirements.

Why is there now a fee for the San Diego County Fire inspection?

On May 6, 2025, the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance revising the Schedule of San Diego County Fire Fees and the Schedule of Standard Hourly Rates. As part of this update, an hourly rate was established for initial annual inspections and re-inspections. This rate will be applied to all annual inspections and re-inspections conducted on or after July 1, 2025. The new hourly rate will help San Diego County Fire recover the cost of these inspections, which help keep on-site personnel and customers safe.

What is the fee amount?

The hourly rate for inspections is \$181.00 per hour. This rate will be applied on a pro-rated basis according to the actual staff time required to complete the inspection, including any related administrative work. For example, if it takes 30 minutes of total time to complete an inspection and the associated administrative work for the inspection, the invoice for the inspection will be \$90.50.

Is there a fee for re-inspections?

Yes, the hourly rate for re-inspections is \$181.00 per hour. This rate will be applied on a pro-rated basis according to the actual staff time required to complete the re-inspection, including any related administrative work.

How do I receive the inspection invoice?

The inspection invoice will be emailed in PDF format to the email address of the contact person San Diego County Fire has on record for the facility. A paper version of the inspection invoice will be mailed to the facility address at a later date if no response is received from the emailed invoice.

How do I pay the inspection invoice?

At this time payment of the inspection invoice will need to be made via check or money order payable to the County of San Diego. Please mail payment to:

County of San Diego
Attn: San Diego County Fire
5580 Overland Avenue Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

If I have questions about the inspection invoice, who do I contact?

Questions can be emailed to Fire@sdcountry.ca.gov. To expedite answers to your questions, please either attach the PDF copy of the invoice to the email or provide the Inspection # and Inspection Date from the invoice in the email. You may also leave a voice message at (858) 974-5999. Please provide the Inspection # and Inspection Date from the invoice in your voice message.

Why did I receive an inspection invoice? My tenant is responsible for their space.

If a tenant occupies a portion of a commercial structure, an inspection of the tenant space will occur, and an inspection invoice will be sent to the tenant. However, common areas of the commercial structure/facility including but not limited to lobbies, restrooms, mechanical rooms, parking lots and building exteriors will be inspected separately and the inspection invoice for the common areas will be sent to the facility contact.