

Ontario Wine Appellation Authority ("Wine Authority")

Fee Setting Process and Criteria

Goods and services subject to fees

The Wine Authority may charge fees for the following goods and services:

- Application for membership
- Renewal of membership
- Any or all services provided in evaluating products for the granting of authorization to use terms regulated by the Wine Authority, such as testing procedures, inspections, and other services.
- Any or all goods provided including publications, certificates, letters of authorization, product stickers and the like.

The Wine Authority may also levy fees on members on the basis of number of bottles or volume of VQA product sold or by proportional market share of product sold.

Fee setting process

Fees shall be set by resolution of the Board of Directors according to the following criteria:

- Fees shall be set with the goal to cover reasonable costs associated with the goods or services provided, including a reasonable portion of overall administrative costs. The Wine Authority will endeavour to identify direct and indirect costs attributed to each service for which a fee is levied and to ensure that fees fairly reflect the benefit gained from the goods or services.
- Direct costs paid to a third party to provide a test or service will normally be fully recovered from the party receiving the service.
- Fees shall be set with consideration to the impact on, and affordability for, all classes of membership.
- Fees shall be reviewed no less than annually.
- Members shall be consulted before any changes to the membership or sales levy fees are made.
- No fee change will be implemented unless it has been reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors and appropriate notice given to members.
- Where the Wine Authority intends to make a significant fee increase it will notify the membership in advance and develop an appropriate approach to communicate the reasons for the fee increase to its members and facilitate discussion.



The Wine Authority shall follow normal business practices, for example, including HST on fees and charging interest on overdue accounts.

Approved by the Board of Directors
February 6, 2024