



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR BILL WALKER

**Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development**

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

P.O. Box 110806
Juneau, AK 99811-0806
Main: 907.465.2550
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August 25, 2015

Dear licensees and interested parties:

Alaska's professional licensing statutes (AS 08.01.065) require the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing (CBPL) to "annually review each fee level to determine whether the regulatory costs of each occupation are approximately equal to fee collections related to that occupation." Alaska's licensing fee statutes go on to say, "If the review indicates that an occupation's fee collections and regulatory costs are not approximately equal, the department shall calculate fee adjustments and adopt regulations...to implement the adjustments."

The division proposes increasing licensing fee amounts in order to comply with the statute listed above, as well as to continue to deliver its current level of service for the guide and transporter licensing program. Once FY15 financials are closed, this program is anticipated to reflect an operating deficit of nearly one million dollars.

Members of the Big Game Commercial Services reviewed the fee structure at the meeting held July 23, 2015. They supported an increase to existing fees and recommended introducing two new fees. The new fees are a responsible effort by board members to move the program out of its long-standing financial deficit position.

The division considered the members' recommendation and proposes the attached fee structure. A breakdown of the proposed fees is enclosed and located on the Board's web page at professionallicense.alaska.gov/BigGameCommercialServicesBoard. A list of questions and answers will be posted here, as well, so please check back to see if your concern or question has been addressed.

This fee proposal will enter a public comment period this week. The division encourages all licensees and interested parties to comment on this proposal through the division's Regulations Specialist, whose contact information is enclosed on the public notice. After the comment period closes and the division reviews all comments received, the division may adopt the regulation as drafted, may amend a proposed fee, or may withdraw the regulations in part or in its whole.

All comments received will be reviewed and taken into consideration prior to adopting the final regulations. The final decision will result in the fee implementation in time for this winter's license renewal.

Follow the instructions enclosed to make written comments during the public comment period. Comments must be addressed to Jun Maiquis, Regulations Specialist, PO Box 110806, Juneau, AK 99811 or jun.maiquis@alaska.gov. Please feel welcome to contact me with any questions at janey.hovenden@alaska.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janey Hovenden".

Janey Hovenden
Director

Encl.

**OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING FEES FOR PROFESSIONS REGULATED BY
THE BIG GAME COMMERCIAL SERVICES BOARD:
NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS CHANGES
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development proposes to change occupational license fees charged to registered and master guide-outfitters, Class-A assistant and assistant guides, and transporters, and also to establish a hunt record and transporter activity report filing fee, and guide use area registration fee.

The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (Department) proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 12, Chapter 02 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with occupational licensing fees for professions regulated by the Big Game Commercial Services Board, including the following:

12 AAC 02.230, Big Game Commercial Services Board, is proposed to be changed to alter the examination, reexamination, license, and renewal fees for registered and master guide-outfitters, Class-A assistant and assistant guides, and transporters, and also to establish a hunt record and transporter activity report filing fee, and guide use area registration fee.

Under AS 08.01.065, the Department must establish fee levels so that the total amount of fees collected for an occupation approximately equals the actual regulatory costs for the occupation. The Department has reviewed the income and expenses for the occupational licensing program for the Big Game Commercial Services Board and proposes fee changes that reflect, to the extent possible, the actual costs of the activities related to the program.

You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to Jun Maiquis, Regulations Specialist, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, P.O. Box 110806 Juneau, AK 99811-0806. Additionally, the Department will accept comments by facsimile at (907) 465-2974 and by electronic mail at jun.maiquis@alaska.gov. Comments may also be submitted through the Alaska Online Public Notice System, by accessing this notice on the system at <http://notice.alaska.gov/178064>, and using the "comment" link. **The comments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on September 28, 2015.**

You may submit written questions relevant to the proposed action to Jun Maiquis, Regulations Specialist, Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing, P.O. Box 110806 Juneau, AK 99811-0806 or by e-mail at jun.maiquis@alaska.gov. **The questions must be received at least 10 days before the end of the public comment period.** The Department will aggregate its response to substantially similar questions and make the questions and response available on the Department's website at <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/BigGameCommercialServicesBoard.aspx> or on the Alaska Online Public Notice System. The Department may, but is not required to, answer written questions received after the 10-day cut-off date and before the end of the comment period.

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Jun Maiquis at (907) 465-2537 no later than September 21, 2015 to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

For a copy of the proposed regulation changes, contact Jun Maiquis at the address or phone number above, or go to <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/portals/5/pub/BGCSB-Fees-2015.pdf>

After the public comment period ends, the Department will either adopt these or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action on them. The language of the final regulations may be different from that of the proposed regulations. **You should comment during the time allowed if your interests could be affected.** Written comments and questions received are public records and are subject to public inspection.

Statutory Authority: AS 08.01.010; AS 08.01.065; AS 08.01.100; AS 08.54.770

Statutes Being Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: AS 08.01.010; AS 08.01.065; AS 08.01.100; AS 08.54.770

Fiscal Information: The proposed regulation changes are not expected to require an increased appropriation.

DATE: 8/26/15

/s/
Jun Maiquis, Regulations Specialist
Division of Corporations, Business and
Professional Licensing

**OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING FEES FOR PROFESSIONS REGULATED BY
THE BIG GAME COMMERCIAL SERVICES BOARD:
ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS NOTICE INFORMATION
(AS 44.62.190(d))**

1. **Adopting agency:** Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development – Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing.
2. **General subject of regulation:** Occupational licensing fees.
3. **Citation of regulation:** 12 AAC 02.230.
4. **Department of Law file number:** To be assigned.
5. **Reason for the proposed action:** Compliance with state statute.
6. **Appropriation/Allocation:** Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing – #2360.
7. **Estimated costs in the aggregate to comply with the proposed action to:**
 - a. **Private Persons:** \$50 - \$200 increase for initial license; \$50 - \$200 increase for renewal license; \$10 increase for exam/reexam or adding game management units; establish a \$50 hunt record or transporter activity report filing fee, and a \$100 guide use area registration fee.
 - b. **Other State Agencies:** None known.
 - c. **Municipalities:** None known.
8. **Cost of implementation to the state agency and available funding (in thousands of dollars):**
No costs are expected in FY 2016 or in subsequent years.
9. **The name of the contact person for the regulations:**
Sara Chambers, Professional Licensing Operations Manager
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
Telephone: (907) 465-2144
E-mail: sara.chambers@alaska.gov
10. **The origin of the proposed action:** Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing.
11. **Date:** 8/26/15 **Prepared by:** /s/
Jun Maiquis, Regulations Specialist

Chapter 02. General Occupational Licensing Functions.

(Words in **boldface and underlined** indicate language being added; words [CAPITALIZED AND BRACKETED] indicate language being deleted.)

12 AAC 02.230 is amended to read:

12 AAC 02.230. Big Game Commercial Services Board. (a) The following fees are established for registered and master guide-outfitters:

- (1) nonrefundable application fee for initial license, \$200;
- (2) initial registered guide-outfitter qualification examination or retake examination fee, \$125;
- (3) game management unit examination fee for taking initial examination, retaking examination, or adding game management units, **\$400** [\$390] per game management unit;
- (4) registered or master guide-outfitter license fee, for all or part of the biennial license period, **\$850** [\$650];
- (5) biennial registered or master guide-outfitter license renewal fee, **\$850** [\$650];
- (6) examination preparation packet for registered guide-outfitter, \$100;
- (7) retired status license fee, \$300;
- (8) hunt record activity report filing fee, \$50;**
- (9) guide use area registration fee, \$100.**

(b) The following fees are established for Class-A assistant and assistant guides:

- (1) nonrefundable application fee for initial license, \$200;
- (2) Class-A assistant and assistant guide license fee for all or part of the initial biennial license period, **\$410** [\$360];

(3) Class-A assistant and assistant guide biennial license renewal fee, **\$410**;

[\$360.]

(4) retired status license fee, \$175.

(c) The following fees are established for transporter licenses:

(1) nonrefundable application fee, \$200;

(2) transporter license fee, for all or part of the biennial license period, **\$850**

[\$650];

(3) biennial transporter license renewal fee, **\$850** [\$650];

(4) transporter activity report filing fee, \$50.

(d) Under AS 08.54.770(e), the license fees for nonresidents are double the license fees established in (a) – (c) of this section. (Eff. 3/6/86, Register 97; am 4/3/88, Register 105; am 3/25/89, Register 109; am 8/29/90, Register 115; am 2/25/93, Register 125; am 10/29/94, Register 132; am 5/24/96, Register 138; am 10/19/96, Register 140; am 11/28/99, Register 152; am 12/16/2001, Register 160; am 11/18/2006, Register 180; am 12/21/2007, Register 184; am 11/26/2009, Register 192; am 11/30/2013, Register 208; am ___/___/___, Register ___)

Authority: AS 08.01.010 AS 08.01.100 AS 08.54.770

AS 08.01.065