



OCC 2008-3

**Subject: Notice of Comptroller of the Currency
Fees for Year 2008
Date: February 19, 2008**

**To: Chief Executive Officers of All National
Banks, Federal Branches and Agencies,
Department and Division Heads, and All
Examining Personnel**

Description: Year 2008 Fee Structure Revision

This rescission does not change the status of the transmitted document. To determine the current status of the transmitted document, refer to the Code of Federal Regulations, www.occ.gov, or the original issuer of the document.

Reference: Interim Rule 12 CFR 8 Effective Date: February 19, 2008; and 12 CFR 8.2 through 8.8

2008 Assessment Schedule

Effective February 19, 2008:

- Assessments are due March 31 and September 30, based on call report information as of December 31 and June 30, respectively. The assessments cover the six-month period beginning on January 1 and July 1, respectively. For example, the assessment due March 31, 2008, covers the period January 1 through June 30, 2008.
- The OCC has amended its assessment regulation to add two new asset-size categories to the general assessment schedule used to calculate each national bank's semiannual assessment. The addition of these categories is warranted to take account of significant structural changes in the national banking system and will enable the OCC to realign its assessments to better reflect industry structure and OCC's corresponding expenses of operations.
- The former top bracket, which covered banks with assets of \$40 billion and above, has been replaced with a new bracket that will cover banks with assets between \$40 billion and \$250 billion. In addition, a new top bracket has been created that will apply to banks with assets in excess of \$250 billion. The schedules shown below reflect these changes.
- The independent trust bank and independent credit card bank fee structures will remain the same.
- Banks are no longer required to calculate their assessment and call in the amount to be debited from their account. The OCC will calculate the assessment due and draft the amount due on March 31 and September 30. The OCC will provide seven-business-days notice of the amounts to be drafted from an institution's account. The institution is responsible for ensuring that the accounts are properly funded on the due dates.
- As has been the case for the last five years, the OCC will charge interest on all payments received after the due date. The interest rate charged will be the United States Treasury Department's current value of funds rate that is published quarterly in the *Federal Register*.
- National banks that depart the national banking system on or before December 31, 2007, or June 30, 2008, will not be subject to the semi-annual assessment for the period beginning January 1, 2008, or July 1, 2008, respectively. Only those institutions leaving the national banking system prior to the close of business on those dates avoid paying the semi-annual assessment for the period beginning January 1, 2008, or July 1, 2008, as applicable.

The OCC's assessment schedule continues to include a surcharge for banks that require increased supervisory resources. The surcharge ensures that fees reflect the increased cost of supervision that applies to those national banks and federal branches and agencies of foreign banks rated 3, 4, or 5 under the uniform financial institution rating system (UFIRS), or the risk management, operational controls, compliance and asset quality (ROCA) rating system as of the relevant call date (*i.e.*, December 31, 2007, or June 30, 2008). The surcharge is to be applied to all components of an institution's assessment, including book assets, assets under management (for independent trust banks), and receivables attributable to independent credit card banks).

- National banks and federal branches and agencies of foreign banks that are subject to the surcharge can calculate their surcharge by multiplying the sum of the assessment based on the institution's book assets up to \$20 billion, the independent trust bank assessment (if applicable), and the independent credit card assessment (if applicable) by 50 percent for 3-rated institutions and 100 percent for 4- and 5-rated institutions.

The OCC will continue to reduce the assessment of nonlead national banks by 12 percent. A nonlead bank, for this purpose, is a national bank and federal branch or agency that is not the largest national bank, based on total assets, controlled by a company owning two or more national banks. Nonlead national banks within any company should multiply their calculated general assessment by 0.88 to recognize the 12 percent discount. The 12 percent discount does not apply to the independent trust bank assessment or the independent credit card bank assessment, given that independent trust banks and independent credit card banks, by definition, are not affiliated with full-service national banks.

Each national bank and federal branch or agency pays the general assessment fee. Independent trust banks pay the general assessment fee and the independent trust bank assessment. Independent credit card banks pay the general assessment fee and the independent credit card bank assessment. Assessments will be calculated using the schedules below and then adjusted for the nonlead discount and/or condition surcharge.

General Assessment Fee Schedule

If the amount of total balance sheet assets (consolidated domestic and foreign subsidiaries) is: (millions)		The Semiannual Assessment will be:		
Over	But Not Over	This Amount	Plus	Of Excess Over (millions)
\$ 0	\$ 2	\$ 5,480	0.000000000	\$ 0
2	20	5,480	0.000216081	2
20	100	9,369	0.000172865	20
100	200	23,198	0.000112360	100
200	1,000	34,434	0.000095074	200
1,000	2,000	110,493	0.000077789	1,000
2,000	6,000	188,282	0.000069146	2,000
6,000	20,000	464,866	0.000058835	6,000
20,000	40,000	1,288,556	0.000047883	20,000
40,000	250,000	2,246,216	0.000032675	40,000
250,000		9,107,966	0.000032348	250,000

Independent Trust Bank Semiannual Assessment Schedule

If the total amount of Fiduciary and Related Assets is: (millions)		The Independent Trust Bank Semiannual Assessment will be:		
Over	But Not Over	This Amount	Plus	Of Excess Over (millions)
\$ 0	\$ 0,000	\$ 20,815	0.000000000	\$ 0
1,000	10,000	20,815	0.000004149	1,000
10,000	100,000	58,156	0.000000695	10,000
100,000		120,706	0.000000442	100,000

Independent Credit Card Bank Semiannual Assessment Schedule

If the bank's total off-balance sheet receivables attributable are: (millions)		The Independent Credit Card Bank Semiannual Assessment will be:
Over	But Not Over	
\$ 0	\$ 100	\$ 4,375
100	1,000	66,250
1,000	5,000	88,750
5,000		110,695

Hourly Rate for Examinations and Investigations

Reference: 12 CFR 8.6

Effective date: Examinations and investigations subject to the fee beginning after January 1, 2003.

Rate: \$110 per hour to recover the cost of conducting special examinations and investigations described in 12 CFR 8.6.

Licensing Fees

Reference: 12 CFR 5.5

All licensing fees have been suspended for calendar year 2008. This change is effective January 1, 2008.

Publications

The OCC has an extensive list of paper-based publications available for a fee, as well as publications available free of charge. For a list of publications and current prices, consult the attached price list. Please note that publication prices are subject to change before the next schedule of fees is published.

Copies of an array of items, including news releases, issuances (such as bulletins, advisories, and alerts), and other materials may be downloaded free of charge from the agency's Web site at:

[<http://www.occ.gov>]. For your convenience, the site contains a search engine to locate materials by subject.

Miscellaneous Fees

Prepayment is *required* for bank histories and certifications.

Bank history - for single bank:	
Less than 50 years	\$ 50.00
Fifty years or more	\$ 125.00

Bank histories are provided to determine the successor to an inactive national bank. They include corporate transactions such as name changes, mergers, closings, and the current address of the successor institution, if available.

Certificates relating to licensing bank activities:	\$ 100.00
Title changes	
Mergers	
Articles of association	
Declaration of insolvency	
Charter	
Corporate existence	
Fiduciary powers	

Certificate of Authenticity (12 CFR 4)	\$ 100
Copies of certificates	\$ 10.00
Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act requests:	
Search and review	\$ 35.00 an hour
Photocopying	\$ 0.20 a page
Examination reports:	
Initial copy	Free
Additional copies - each	\$ 10.00
Special requests - each	\$ 50.00

Thomas R. Bloom
Senior Deputy Comptroller for the Office of Management and Chief Financial Officer

Related Links

- [OCC Publications List](#)
- [Safety and Soundness](#)
- [Compliance](#)
- [Asset Management](#)
- [Comptroller's Licensing Manual](#)
- [Description of Publications](#)

- [Publication Order Form](#)
- [Interim Rule 73 FR 9012](#)
- [Correction 73 FR 9625](#)

RESCINDED

warranted to take account of significant structural changes in the national banking system since 1992, when the table was last revised, and will enable the OCC to realign our assessments to better reflect industry structure and OCC's corresponding expenses of operations. The OCC is issuing this rule as an interim rule with a request for comment so that such a realignment can occur promptly.

DATES: *Effective Date:* This rule is effective on February 19, 2008.

Comment Date: Comments must be received by March 20, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Because paper mail in the Washington, DC area and at the OCC is subject to delay, commenters are encouraged to submit comments by e-mail, if possible. Please use the title "Assessment of Fees" to facilitate the organization and distribution of the comments. You may submit comments by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal—“Regulations.gov”:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, under the “More Search Options” tab click next to the “Advanced Docket Search” option where indicated, select “Comptroller of the Currency” from the agency drop-down menu, then click “Submit.” In the “Docket ID” column, select “OCC–2008–0001” to submit or view public comments and to view supporting and related materials for this interim final rule. The “How to Use This Site” link on the Regulations.gov home page provides information on using Regulations.gov, including instructions for submitting or viewing public comments, viewing other supporting and related materials, and viewing the docket after the close of the comment period.

- *E-mail:*

regs.comments@occ.treas.gov.

- *Mail:* Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW., Mail Stop 1–5, Washington, DC 20219.

- *Fax:* (202) 874–4448.

- *Hand Delivery/Courier:* 250 E Street, SW., Attn: Public Information Room, Mail Stop 1–5, Washington, DC 20219.

Instructions: You must include “OCC” as the agency name and “Docket Number OCC–2008–0001” in your comment. In general, OCC will enter all comments received into the docket and publish them on the Regulations.gov Web site without change, including any business or personal information that you provide such as name and address information, e-mail addresses, or phone numbers. Comments received, including attachments and other supporting materials, are part of the public record

and subject to public disclosure. Do not enclose any information in your comment or supporting materials that you consider confidential or inappropriate for public disclosure.

You may review comments and other related materials that pertain to this interim final rule by any of the following methods:

- *Viewing Comments Electronically:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, under the “More Search Options” tab click next to the “Advanced Document Search” option where indicated, select “Comptroller of the Currency” from the agency drop-down menu, then click “Submit.” In the “Docket ID” column, select “OCC–2008–0001” to view public comments for this rulemaking action.

- *Viewing Comments Personally:* You may personally inspect and photocopy comments at the OCC's Public Information Room, 250 E Street, SW., Washington, DC. For security reasons, the OCC requires that visitors make an appointment to inspect comments. You may do so by calling (202) 874–5043. Upon arrival, visitors will be required to present valid government-issued photo identification and submit to security screening in order to inspect and photocopy comments.

- *Docket:* You may also view or request available background documents and project summaries using the methods described above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mitchell Plave, Counsel, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, (202) 874–5090; Stuart Feldstein, Assistant Director, Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division, (202) 874–5090; or Colette Baylson, Accounting Operations Manager, Financial Management, (202) 874–4403, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW., Washington, DC 20219.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The National Bank Act authorizes the OCC to fund the expenses of its operations through assessments on national banks.¹ Under this authority, the OCC collects semiannual assessments from national banks in accordance with part 8 of our regulations and with the OCC's Notice of the Comptroller of the Currency Fees (Notice of Fees).²

Part 8 currently establishes ten categories, or brackets, each of which

¹ 12 U.S.C. 482.

² Under part 8, the OCC also collects assessments from Federal branches and Federal agencies. The changes provided for in this interim rule will also apply to assessments of Federal branches and Federal agencies.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Comptroller of the Currency

12 CFR Part 8

[Docket No. OCC–2008–0001]

RIN 1557–AD06

Assessment of Fees

AGENCY: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Treasury.

ACTION: Interim final rule with request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) is amending its assessment regulation to add two new asset-size categories to the table in 12 CFR 8.2(a) used to calculate each national bank's semiannual assessment. The addition of these categories is

comprises a range of size values for a national bank's total assets. Each national bank's assessment is the sum of a base amount, which is the same for every national bank in that asset-size bracket, plus a marginal amount, which is computed by applying a marginal assessment rate to the amount of total assets in excess of the lower boundary of the asset-size bracket.³ The marginal assessment rate declines as asset size increases, reflecting economies of scale in bank examination and supervision, which factor into the OCC's overall cost of operations. Both the base amounts and the marginal rates applicable to each asset-size bracket are published at least once a year in the OCC's Notice of Fees.⁴

The current asset-size brackets, which were adopted in 1992⁵ no longer reflect the structure and distribution of assets in the national banking system as a whole. For example, since 1992, there has been a significant increase not only in the amount of assets held by the largest banks, but also in the assets held by national banks in other asset-size brackets, resulting in a general upward shift in the distribution of the population of national banks on the asset-size bracket table in 12 CFR 8.2(a). The growth in the average assets held by national banks reflect the consolidation in the banking industry that has occurred since 1992.

Given these developments, the existing asset-size brackets do not reflect the structure of the national banking system. Updating the asset-size brackets therefore enables the OCC to adjust the assessment framework to better reflect industry structure and the OCC's corresponding expenses of operations.

Description of the Interim Rule

For these reasons, the interim rule expands the number of asset-size assessment brackets in the table at 12 CFR 8.2(a) by revising the current top bracket, presently \$40 billion and above, to cover banks with assets between \$40 billion and \$250 billion. In addition, the interim rule creates a new top bracket that will apply to banks with assets in excess of \$250 billion.

The OCC also is making a conforming change to delete the word "ten" from the description of the asset-size brackets

in § 8.2(a)(1) of the assessment rules since it no longer accurately describes the number of brackets.

Effective Date; Solicitation of Comments

This interim rule will become effective immediately upon publication in the **Federal Register**. Pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, at 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), notice and an opportunity for public comment are not required prior to the issuance of a final rule if an agency, for good cause, finds that "notice and public procedure thereon are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest."⁶ Similarly, there is good cause to publish a rule with an immediate effective date if the rule "grants or recognizes an exemption or relieves a restriction."⁵ 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(1) 553(d)(3).

As we have described, the asset brackets in the assessments table in 12 CFR 8.2(a), which were last revised in 1992, do not reflect the structure of the national banking industry, and therefore the framework for assessing national banks for the expenses of OCC's operations is no longer current. Completion of notice and comment rulemaking procedures prior to issuing this interim rule would require delaying implementation of the new asset brackets beyond the next scheduled assessment date, which is March 31, 2008. Such a delay is inconsistent with the public interest since it would result in national banks' continued payment of assessments under a framework that the OCC has determined is no longer representative of current industry structure and the OCC's corresponding expenses of operation. Issuance of this interim rule furthers the public interest and reduces regulatory burden because it will allow the OCC, as appropriate, to issue an amended Notice of Fees that better reflects the structure of the national banking system and allocates the OCC's expenses of operation on that basis. For the same reasons, the OCC finds good cause to publish this rule with an immediate effective date. *See* 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(1), 553(d)(3).

Although notice and comment are not required prior to the effective date of this rule, the OCC invites comments on all aspects of this interim rule and intends to revise the interim rule if necessary or appropriate in light of the comments received.

Solicitation of Comments on Use of Plain Language

The OCC also requests comment on whether the interim rule is written clearly and is easy to understand. On

June 1, 1998, the President issued a memorandum directing each agency in the Executive branch to write its rules in plain language. This directive applies to all new proposed and interim rulemaking documents issued on or after January 1, 1999. In addition, Public Law 106-102 requires each Federal agency to use plain language in all proposed and interim rules published after January 1, 2000. The OCC invites comments on how to make this rule clearer. For example, you may wish to discuss:

- (1) Whether we have organized the material to suit your needs;
- (2) Whether the requirements of the rule are clear; or
- (3) Whether there is something else we could do to make the rule easier to understand.

Regulatory Flexibility Act Analysis

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (Pub. L. 96-354, Sept. 19, 1980) (RFA) applies only to rules for which an agency publishes a general notice of proposed rulemaking pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 553(b).⁷ Because the OCC has determined for good cause that the Administrative Procedure Act does not require public notice and comment on this interim rule, we are not publishing a general notice of proposed rulemaking. Thus, the RFA does not apply to this interim rule.

Executive Order 12866

The OCC has determined that this interim rule is not a significant regulatory action under Executive Order 12866.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 Determinations

Section 202 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995⁸ (Unfunded Mandates Act) requires that an agency prepare a budgetary impact statement before promulgating any rule likely to result in a Federal mandate that may result in the expenditure by state, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more in any one year. If a budgetary impact statement is required, section 205 of the Unfunded Mandates Act also requires the agency to identify and consider a reasonable number of regulatory alternatives before promulgating the rule. The OCC has determined that this interim rule will not result in expenditures by state, local, and tribal governments, in the aggregate, or by the private sector, of \$100 million or more in any one year.

³ See 12 CFR 8.2(a) (listing the asset-size brackets).

⁴ See, e.g., OCC Bulletin 2007-46, "Notice of the Comptroller of the Currency Fees for Year 2008" (December 1, 2007). The OCC's regulations provide for the annual publication of the Notice of Fees and also authorize the publication of interim, or amended, notices of fees "from time to time throughout the year as necessary." 12 CFR 8.8.

⁵ 57 FR 22413 (May 28, 1992).

⁶ 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B).

⁷ 5 U.S.C. 601(2).

⁸ 2 U.S.C. 1532.

Accordingly, the OCC has not prepared a budgetary impact statement or specifically addressed the regulatory alternatives considered.

Paperwork Reduction Act

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506; 5 CFR Part 1320 Appendix A.1), we have reviewed the interim rule to assess any information collections. There are no collections of information as defined by the Paperwork Reduction Act in the interim rule.

Lists of Subjects in 12 CFR Part 8

Assessment of fees.

Authority and Issuance

■ For the reasons set forth in the preamble, part 8 of chapter I of title 12 of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows:

PART 8—ASSESSMENT OF FEES

■ 1. The authority citation for part 8 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 12 U.S.C. 93a, 481, 482, 1867, 3102, and 3108; and 15 U.S.C. 78c and 78l.

■ 2. Section 8.2 is amended by:
■ a. Revising paragraph (a) introductory text, including the table; and
■ b. Removing the word “ten” in paragraph (a)(1) in the first sentence, to read as follows:

§ 8.2 Semiannual assessment.

(a) Each national bank shall pay to the Comptroller of the Currency a semiannual assessment fee, due by March 31 and September 30 of each year, for the six month period beginning on January 1 and July 1 before each payment date. The Comptroller of the Currency will calculate the amount due under this section and provide a notice of assessments to each national bank no later than 7 business days prior to March 31 and September 30 of each year. The semiannual assessment will be calculated as follows:

If the bank's total assets (consolidated domestic and foreign subsidiaries) are:		The semiannual assessment is:		
Over—	But not over—	This amount—base amount	Plus marginal rates	Of excess over—
Column A Million	Column B Million	Column E	Column C	Column D Million
\$0	\$2	\$X1	0	
2	20	X2	Y1	\$2
20	100	X3	Y2	20
100	200	X4	Y3	100
200	1,000	X5	Y4	200
1,000	2,000	X6	Y5	1,000
2,000	6,000	X7	Y6	2,000
6,000	20,000	X8	Y7	6,000
20,000	40,000	X9	Y8	20,000
40,000	250,000	X10	Y9	40,000
250,000	X11	Y10	250,000

* * * * *

Dated: February 11, 2008.
John C. Dugan,
Comptroller of the Currency.
[FR Doc. E8-3004 Filed 2-15-08; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4810-33-P

Corrections

Federal Register

Vol. 73, No. 35

Thursday, February 21, 2008

This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains editorial corrections of previously published Presidential, Rule, Proposed Rule, and Notice documents. These corrections are prepared by the Office of the Federal Register. Agency prepared corrections are issued as signed documents and appear in the appropriate document categories elsewhere in the issue.

February 19, 2008, make the following correction:

§8.2 [Corrected]

On page 9014, in §8.2(a), the table is reprinted to read as set forth below:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Comptroller of the Currency

12 CFR Part 8

[Docket No. OCC–2008–0001]

RIN 1557–AD06

Assessment of Fees

Correction

In rule document E8–3004 beginning on page 9012 in the issue of Tuesday,

If the bank's total assets (consolidated domestic and foreign subsidiaries) are:		The semiannual assessment is:		
Over—	But not over—	This amount—base amount	Plus marginal rates	Of excess over—
Column A Million	Column B Million	Column C	Column D	Column E Million
\$0	\$2	\$X1	0	\$2
2	20	X2	Y1	20
20	100	X3	Y2	100
100	200	X4	Y3	200
200	1,000	X5	Y4	1,000
1,000	2,000	X6	Y5	2,000
2,000	6,000	X7	Y6	6,000
6,000	20,000	X8	Y7	20,000
20,000	40,000	X9	Y8	40,000
40,000	250,000	X10	Y9	250,000
250,000	X11	Y10	250,000

[FR Doc. Z8–3004 Filed 2–20–08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1505–01–D