January 21, 2000

Notice 2000-04

TO: The Chief Operating Officer of each financial institution and others concerned in the Eleventh Federal Reserve District

SUBJECT

2000 Fee Changes

DETAILS

The Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas is announcing priced service fee changes for 2000. All fees will become effective April 3, 2000, to minimize changes for financial institutions during the period surrounding the century rollover.

Electronic Services Fees

Prices for most electronic payment services will decline, including lower fees for Fedwire® funds and securities online transfers, and automated clearinghouse (ACH) transactions. Fees will remain unchanged in 2000 for electronic access options, the Fedwire-based net settlement service, and purchase and sale transactions.

Improved operational efficiencies have made it possible for us to reduce Fedwire funds transfer fees for the fourth consecutive year, book-entry fees for two consecutive years, and ACH service fees for the seventh time in five years. Effective April 3, 2000, the Federal Reserve will reduce its average fee for Fedwire funds transfers by 12 percent. Each of the three tiers of the funds online transaction fee structure will be reduced, with the largest reduction in the lowest priced tier. Fees in tiers one, two, and three will be $0.33, $0.24, and $0.17, respectively. Fedwire securities transfer online fees will decline by 18 percent, from $0.85 to $0.70. Fees for ACH items originated in small and large files will decline by one mill, or as much as 18 percent, to $0.0055 and $0.0045, respectively.
Offline Transaction Fees

Due to the increasing cost of processing offline transactions, the Fedwire funds transfer offline surcharge will increase 15 percent, from $13 to $15; the securities transfer offline surcharge will increase 38 percent, from $13 to $18; and the offline net settlement surcharge will increase 15 percent, from $13 to $15.

Uniform Electronic Check Products

Product definitions, naming conventions, price structures, price ranges, and billing codes for electronic check products (payor bank services, imaging service, presentment point services, and electronic cash letter services) will be standardized at all Reserve Banks effective April 3, 2000. These changes allow for consistent and simplified electronic check services offered in the Eleventh District and across the Federal Reserve System. Service fees for selected electronic check services will increase.

Check Service Fees

Fees for paper check products, which include forward processed, fine sort, and returned checks, will increase 2 percent on a volume-weighted basis. This increase is driven primarily by increases in check operating costs.

Noncash Collection Fees

Fees for municipal bond collections will decrease from $50 to $40 per bond. Additionally, the per-envelope fee for deposits containing six to fifty coupon envelopes will decrease from $3 to $2.50.

Special Cash Services

In the El Paso Office, the surcharge for registered mail will decrease from $80 to $31 and will be applied to both registered mail orders and deposits.

MORE INFORMATION

Complete product and fee schedule information will be distributed to all financial institutions during the first quarter 2000. All priced service fee information can be found soon at www.dallasfed.org or at www.frbservices.org.

Sincerely,

[Signature]