

# 6 HIDDEN FEES THAT RUIN YOUR DOSIMETRY BUDGET (AND HOW TO AVOID THEM)

by Radiation Detection Company

You signed up with a new dosimetry provider, and you got a GREAT rate.... or so you thought. Little did you know that by the end of the year, you may be paying more than double what you thought you signed up and budgeted for....yikes! Before you sign your next contract, read some of the hidden fees that can be budget busters in your dosimetry program.



## #1: Account Set Up Fees

Some companies will charge you to set up doing business with them—these can be categorized as “admin fees” for things like forms and getting your account up and running. Some companies will charge a front-end fee for every user and location added to your roster. Believe it or not, this can sometimes cost even more than the dosimetry service itself!

## #2: Shipping Costs Not Included

When creating your budget, be sure to consider the cost of shipping when returning your x-ray badges. Some companies even offer a prepaid label that make the badge return process simple and easy. This can take the stress (and man-hours) off taking your package to the post office to make sure the proper postage is included.

## #3: Charges for Updating Badge Wearers

There could be extra charges to add or remove your badge wearers directly through your service provider. These changes could quickly add up, especially if your staff is consistently

changing. Oftentimes you will have access to make these changes on their online account management system.

## #4: New Group Locations Adding Up

Adding more locations to an existing account is usually a good sign. There is sometimes even tiered pricing dependent on the number of dosimeters being used. But you may find extra shipping and handling costs, or location fees take a significant portion of your budget.

## #5: Maintenance Costs

Your account maintenance changes could bring a surprising cost for things like updating admin users on your account or office contact info changes. Typically, this could be from companies that push you to make these updates on their online account portal.

## #6: Reporting Fees

Believe it or not, you may be nickel and dimed for the very thing you signed up to receive: a dose report. While some companies make you pay extra just to get one at all, others will charge you to get custom reports that are often needed to maintain compliance. These custom dosimetry reports are sometimes referred to as individual, termination, or end-of-year reports, and are only available for a fee (not to mention lead time).

## 3 Ways You Can Get Ahead

### Review the Fine Print

Remember, that low sticker price might come with a surprise bill that you were not prepared to pay. The only way for some dosimetry companies to keep a low badge price is to tack on a bunch of fees to make up for the cost of service on the back end. Make sure to review the all-in annual cost, not just the badge price. This makes sure that when comparing costs

between dosimetry companies, you are comparing apples to apples.

### Enroll in Shipping Program

Many companies provide a program for preferred shipping services. This is a flat rate cost that you can budget for without the unexpected variations and reliability concerns. It saves time and money, and it is also incredibly convenient.



### Find A Trusted Dosimetry Provider

Researching prior to deciding on a radiation monitoring provider can prevent headaches down the road. This ensures you are receiving the best service to meet your practice needs and budget. Take the time now to look at reviews and gather insights of a provider.

### Compare Your Estimated Costs

Many competitors are willing to significantly discount their offering to retain accounts or take accounts by price matching. This is a sneaky tactic because while competitors can match the sticker price to win business, they sneak in fees that annoy customers and make the total cost of service much higher.

Take these tips outlined today next time your office is under a budget review or processing the estimated costs that you need to stay within. If you keep in mind the hidden fees associated with dosimetry services, you will have a better budgeting plan.



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