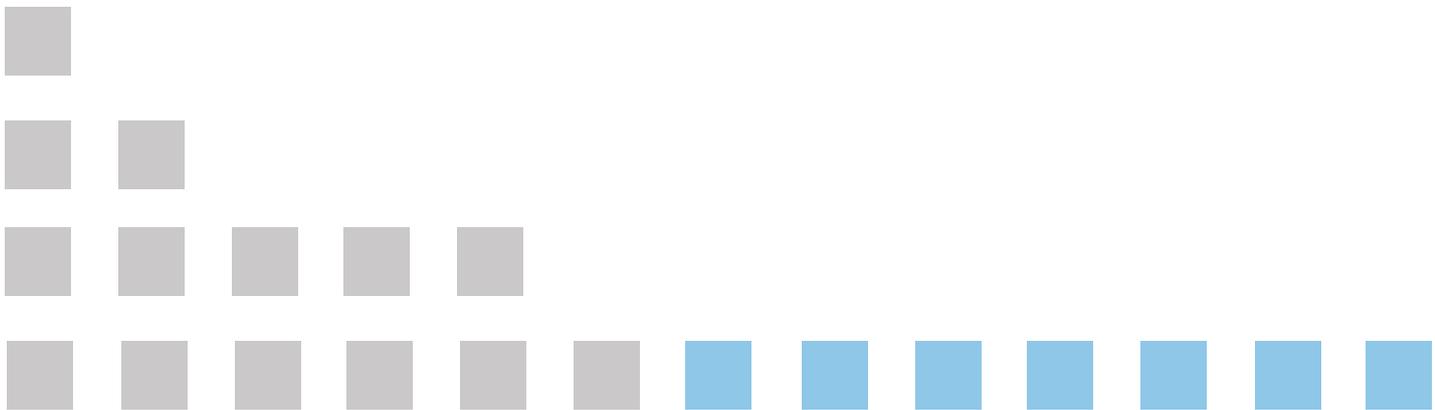


# GFSC Fees Newsletter

Annual Regulatory Fees – Financial Year 2021/2022



# Introduction

This newsletter sets out the annual regulatory fees for the financial year ending 31 March 2022 (2021/2022), as well as expectations for payment of fees. Invoices will be issued on 1 April 2021 to existing financial services firms under the Financial Services Act 2019 for which the GFSC has responsibility.

## Annual Regulatory Fees

### Increase in Annual Regulatory Charges

HM Government of Gibraltar (HMGoG) has determined that the increase in regulatory fees will be 4% for 2021/2022.

HMGoG will continue to provide financial support to the GFSC for the forthcoming financial year and the subvention provided to the GFSC will remain at its current level. Over the last 5 years, HMGoG has made considerable contributions to the GFSC to cover extraordinary expenses, in addition to the agreed annual subvention payments. In the current climate, an increase in regulatory fees is necessary to support the costs of the Regulator.

Amendments to the annual regulatory fees will be reflected under the Financial Services (Fees) Regulations 2020. Details of all annual regulatory fees are documented in Schedule 1 to these regulations. The fee amendments will be effective as from 1 April 2021.

### Payment Terms

Annual regulatory fee invoices will be sent out to regulated firms on 1 April 2021 via email. Regulated entities will have *28 days* from the date of the invoice within which to pay the annual fees i.e. on or before 29 April 2021.

For the previous financial year (2020/2021), under exceptional circumstances, annual regulatory fees were payable quarterly in arrears in order to support firms and assist with cash flow during a period of considerable uncertainty.

As stipulated in the Financial Services (Fees) Regulations 2020, annual regulatory fees will resume to become payable within *28 days* from the invoice date. Regulatory fees in respect of financial year 2021/2022 must be settled in full before the payment deadline.

If you are unable to settle your annual fees in full before the prescribed timeframe, you will be required to submit a written representation before the payment deadline (29 April 2021) stating the reasons why. The GFSC will consider your request on a case-by-case basis.

Regulated firms with multiple permissions will receive a single invoice detailing all regulatory fees payable.

### Methods of Payment

In order to reduce social contact and stop the spread of infection via physical payment, the GFSC will no longer be accepting cheque payments. Payment should be made via bank transfer, using the information provided on the invoice and quoting the unique reference number indicated.

Regulated firms will be provided with a personalised Statement of Account at monthly intervals, detailing all invoices raised, payments received and any amounts outstanding.

## Late Payments

If a regulated firm does not pay the total amount of an annual regulatory fee before the end of the date by which it is due, under Regulation 9 of the Financial Services (Fees) Regulations 2020, that person must also pay:

- (a) an administrative fee of £250; and
- (b) interest on any unpaid fee or levy at the rate of 5% a year above the base rate, accruing on a daily basis from the date on which the unpaid amount was payable.

## Surrender of a Permission

Invoices will be issued to all regulated firms on 1 April 2021, in respect of the 2021/2022 financial year. Should a firm wish to surrender its financial services permission(s), the GFSC must be formally notified before the invoice issue date i.e. by no later than 31 March 2021. If a regulated firm is authorised to conduct regulated activity as at 31 March 2021, an invoice will be generated by our systems.

The GFSC has adopted a policy where we will refund fees on a pro-rata basis following the surrender of any permission(s) part way during the financial year. The refund will be calculated on a *monthly* basis from the date of surrender to the next financial year-end. We believe that this approach is both proportionate and fair, and will provide Gibraltar based firms with more flexibility in an ever-changing market.

Similarly, we are extending our policy to consistently apply our approach to firms that are authorised part way through a financial year. If a permission is granted during the financial year, the regulatory fee payable will be charged on a pro-rata basis. The fee will be calculated on a *monthly* basis from the date of authorisation/registration to the next financial year-end.

## Administration

The GFSC is keen to ensure that all regulated firms receive a copy of their invoice in a timely manner. In line with the GFSC's environmental initiative to achieve sustainability, invoices will be sent out via email only, and not in the post.

Invoices will be issued in pdf format, together with a detailed breakdown of the annual regulatory fee payable in accordance with the Financial Services (Fees) Regulations 2020.

Regulated firms may have recently received correspondence from the GFSC requesting an up to date contact email address for financial purposes. This will ensure that invoices reach the relevant individuals within each firm.

**Published by:**

Gibraltar Financial Services Commission  
PO Box 940  
Suite 3, Ground Floor  
Atlantic Suites  
Europort Avenue  
Gibraltar

[www.gfsc.gi](http://www.gfsc.gi)

© 2017 Gibraltar Financial Services Commission

---