

## **Title 3: Rates and Charges**

### **Chapter 1: CONNECTION CHARGES, INSTALLATION CHARGES, AND SEATTLE PUBLIC UTILITY FACILITY CHARGES**

#### **3.01.010 Connection Charge – When Applicable.**

Every new connection to the District’s system must pay a connection charge. (Res. 2019.05.19)

#### **3.01.020 Connection Charge – Amount**

##### **A. Overview.**

This chapter introduces the means of calculating the connection charge for all connections. The connection charge is calculated based on a capacity charge determined by meter equivalency and a fire charge. In addition, if a reimbursement agreement has been recorded against the property at issue and all or a portion of the reimbursement amount remains payable, the remaining reimbursement amount is also added to the connection charge.

##### **B. Capacity Charge Based on Meter Equivalent.**

1. The capacity charge component of the District’s connection charge is determined by meter equivalent, as set forth in the following table which follows AWWA M6 Manual.

<b>Meter Size</b>	<b>Meter Equivalent</b>
5/8 inch x 3/4 inch	1
1 inch	2.5
1 1/2 inch	5
2 inch	8
3 inch	16
4 inch	25

2. The amount of the capacity charge for the connection’s meter equivalent is set forth in **Appendix 3A**.

##### **C. Fire Charge.**

1. The fire charge component of the District’s connection charge is established separately for low density (single-family residential) connections and high density (all other land uses) connections.
2. Low Density Fire Charge (Single-family residential)

The District's low density fire charge is a flat rate charged per meter. The per meter rate is set forth in **Appendix 3A**.

3. High Density Fire Charge (All non-single-family residential)

The District's high density fire charge is a flat rate charged per square foot. For the purposes of this fire charge, square footage means gross square footage with the exception of parking garages where the square footage is computed on the single largest floor only. The per square foot rate is set forth in **Appendix 3A**.

**D. Connection Charge - Calculation Method.**

The required connection charge for each connection shall be calculated as follows:

Step 1: Determine the Capacity Charge.

Step 2: Determine the Fire Charge.

Step 3: Determine whether the property at issue is subject to a reimbursement agreement; if so, determine the reimbursement amount payable under the reimbursement agreement.

Step 4: Add the amounts from Steps 1, 2, and 3 to arrive at the total connection charge.  
(Res. 2016.06.19)

**E. Credit for Prior Connection Charge Payment.**

1. Credit. If a property for which a connection charge becomes due has previously paid a connection charge (or connection charge equivalent), the connecting use will receive a credit for the equivalent water service; provided that, the District will in no case pay a monetary refund. (Res. 2021.02.08)
2. Conversion from fire-only service. A use that converts from fire-only service to add or substitute domestic receives no connection charge credit.

**3.01.030 Seattle Public Utility (SPU) Facilities Charge – When Applicable and Amount**

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) may require payment of a facilities charge for new or modified connections to the District's system. The requirement to pay SPU's facilities charge and the amount of the charge are established by SPU. The SPU facilities charge is collected by the District and then forwarded to SPU. When SPU requires payment of a facilities charge, it must be paid to the District at the same time as payment of the District's connection charge. The amount of the SPU facilities charge is set forth in **Appendix 3A**. Additional SPU facilities charge information provided by SPU is attached as **Appendix 3B** (Res. 2019.05.19).

**3.01.040 Connection Charge – Time for Payment and Temporary Connections.**

- A. A connection charge shall be paid in full pursuant to subsections B and C below.

B. The timing of payment of a connection charge shall be as follows:

1. For any development project requiring a Water System Extension Agreement, the timing of the connection charge payment shall be as set forth in the Water System Extension Agreement.
2. For any development project not requiring a Water System Extension Agreement but connecting to the District's system, the connection charge shall be paid in full prior to water service installation.

C. The District may allow a temporary water service to facilitate the construction of a project. The connection charge shall be paid at the time of application. (Res. 2019.05.19)

**3.01.050 Installation Charge – When Applicable.**

An installation charge applies when the District undertakes improvements relating to the connection of real property to the District's system. An installation charge is not required when a Water System Extension Agreement is required. (Res. 2019.05.19)

**3.01.060 Installation Charge – Amount and Time for Payment.**

A. The installation charge shall be as set forth in **Appendix 3A**.

B. Timing of payment:

1. A one-inch or smaller meter shall be paid in full at time of application.
2. A meter greater than one inch: 100% of the estimated cost at the time of application. Any balance between the final and estimated cost shall be paid no later than 30 days after installation of the service connection.
3. A meter for a temporary connection, when permitted by the District under this chapter: at time of application.

C. Installation charges are based on standard trench patches (50 square feet of asphalt). Additional costs for restoration shall be borne by the applicant. (Res. 2019.05.19)

**3.01.070 Installation Charge – Not an In Lieu Charge.**

An installation charge is not a charge in lieu of any future connection charge, general facility charge, local facility charge, utility local improvement district assessment, latecomers or reimbursement agreement fees, main extension costs, or similar costs or charges. (Res. 2019.05.19)