



WILDFIRE



Fuel Cost Adjustment Job Aid

Fuel Cost Adjustment: The Washington State Wage & Equipment Rate Schedule provides for a Fuel Cost Adjustment (FCA) for heavy equipment, command vehicles, water equipment (engines and tenders), and tow vehicles only. This adjustment will provide agencies the ability to obtain reasonable relief from sudden and unforeseen increases in fuel prices. The increase in fuel costs could significantly reduce an agency's ability to respond to an incident. The FCA will be calculated using published weekly fuel prices found at <https://www.eia.gov/petroleum/gasdiesel/>.

The weekly price of diesel as posted every Monday is shown by Regions. The price for fuel that will be reimbursed will be the rate shown for the West Coast less California. To eliminate confusion and ensure consistency, the price for diesel will be the only rate used, regardless of the type of fuel a vehicle uses.

The DNR and WSP will post the applicable rate on their websites weekly. Finance personnel should not calculate the FCA independently.

The applicable rate will be calculated based on the date the initial IMT is assigned to the incident. While the incident may have a start date of Sunday, if the IMT isn't assigned until Monday, that is the rate that will be used. The rate will remain the same for the duration of the incident regardless of IMT transitions or when resources were ordered.

How the FCA Works: The base rate is predicated upon the price of fuel to be less than \$4.50/gallon. To ensure that agencies are appropriately reimbursed, the mileage rate increases by the average fuel cost increase.

Fuel Cost Adjustment – Heavy Equipment Daily Rate Increase

| \$4.51 – \$4.75 | \$4.76 – \$5.00 | \$5.01 – \$5.25 | \$5.26 – \$5.50 | \$5.51 – \$5.75 | \$5.76 – \$6.00 |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| \$45.00 | \$60.00 | \$75.00 | \$90.00 | \$105.00 | \$120.00 |

The FCA is in addition to the normal daily rate for heavy equipment. Does not apply to transport.

Example: A Type 2 Dozer (daily single shift w/operator) responds to an incident. The average cost of fuel is \$4.85/gal. The base rate is \$2820/day plus \$60/day for the FCA for a new daily rate of \$2880/day.

Fuel Cost Adjustment – Command Vehicles

| \$4.51 – \$4.75 | \$4.76 – \$5.00 | \$5.01 – \$5.25 | \$5.26 – \$5.50 | \$5.51 – \$5.75 | \$5.76 – \$6.00 |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| \$1.16 | \$1.18 | \$1.20 | \$1.22 | \$1.24 | \$1.26 |

Example: A DIVS responding to an incident. The DIVS drives an SUV and records the daily mileage for travel to the incident, each of the 4 days assigned to the incident, and travel home.

The average cost of fuel is \$4.74/gal. Reimbursement rate for the vehicle is \$1.16/mile, including travel.

| Day | Miles | Mileage Rate | Sub-Total | Daily Guarantee | Mileage OR Daily Guarantee | Amount Reimbursed |
|--------------|-------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 (TVL) | 120 | \$1.16 | \$139.20 | \$50 | - | - |
| 1 (Work) | 45 | \$1.16 | \$52.20 | | Mileage | \$191.40 |
| 2 | 25 | \$1.16 | \$29.00 | \$50 | Daily | \$50.00 |
| 3 | 60 | \$1.16 | \$69.60 | \$50 | Mileage | \$69.60 |
| 4 | 65 | \$1.16 | \$75.40 | \$50 | Mileage | \$75.40 |
| 5 (TVL) | 120 | \$1.16 | \$139.20 | \$50 | Mileage | \$139.20 |
| Total | | | | | | \$525.60 |

Fuel Cost Adjustment – Water Equipment

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| \$4.51 – \$4.75 | \$4.76 – \$5.00 | \$5.01 – \$5.25 | \$5.26 – \$5.50 | \$5.51 – \$5.75 | \$5.76 – \$6.00 |
| \$0.56 | \$0.80 | \$1.04 | \$1.28 | \$1.52 | \$1.76 |

The FCA applies to travel to and from the incident only for water equipment. The rate shall be applied to the mileage from the home unit to the incident.

Example: The distance from the home unit to the incident is 115 miles. The average cost of fuel is \$5.27/gal. The FCA would be \$1.28/mile. The apparatus would receive an additional \$147.20 (115 miles x \$1.28) for their travel to and \$147.20 for their travel home from the incident.

Fuel Cost Adjustment – Tow Vehicles

| Type | \$4.51 – \$4.75 | \$4.76 – \$5.00 | \$5.01 – \$5.25 | \$5.26 – \$5.50 | \$5.51 – \$5.75 | \$5.76 – \$6.00 |
|-------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 – 2 | \$1.20 | \$1.22 | \$1.24 | \$1.26 | \$1.28 | \$1.30 |
| 3 – 4 | \$1.12 | \$1.14 | \$1.16 | \$1.18 | \$1.20 | \$1.22 |

The FCA applies to travel to and from the incident only for tow vehicles. The rate shall be applied to the mileage from the home unit to the incident.

Example: A Type 3 plans trailer responds to the incident. The distance from the home unit to the incident is 85 miles. The average cost of fuel is \$4.55/gal. The FCA would be \$1.10/mile. The tow vehicle would receive an additional \$95.20 (85 miles x \$1.12) for their travel to and \$95.20 for their travel home from the incident.

All Other Vehicles: All other vehicles used for transportation from point of dispatch to incident and back will be reimbursed for mileage to and from only. The FCA does not apply.