

Powernet Tax Rates and Surcharge

Summary

Long Distance Telecommunication Services

As of 11/1/2025

Rates are Subject to Change

Taxes and Federal Surcharges

FCC Common Carrier Fee – This is an FCC regulatory fee to recover the annual costs of its enforcement, policy and rule making, user information, and international activities. This is collected at 0.321% of interstate and international usage. This rate is subject to change annually.

Federal Universal Service Fund (FUSF) – The Federal Universal Service Fund recovers the cost of required contributions to Universal Service Fund which supports the provision of telecommunications services to low income individuals, rural populations, schools and libraries, and rural hospitals. It is calculated as a percentage of interstate and international usage and any associated charges. **The current FUSF rate is 31.8% and is subject to change quarterly.**

State Taxes and Surcharges

State and local taxes vary greatly by state and municipality. Please call the Tax Department for further information.

Other Fees and Surcharges

Administrative Recovery Fee (ARF) – The Administrative Recovery Fee allows Powernet to recover various costs of administrative support, property lease and data center expenses, fuel, compiling data from the billing system to generate customer invoices and other costs incurred by Powernet. This fee is not a government mandated tax or surcharge. The current Administrative Recovery Fee per month is \$13.48 for Ohio residential customers, \$17.48 for non-Ohio residential, and \$28.77 for all business customers. (effective March 1, 2023)

Bill Rendering Fee (BRF) – The Bill Rendering Fee applies to On Demand and ticket invoices only and allows Powernet to recover costs associated with compiling customer data from the billing system to generate customer invoices. This fee is not a government mandated tax or surcharge. The Bill Rendering Fee per month is \$2.69 for residential customers, and \$5.79 for all business customers. (effective March 1, 2023)

Compliance Cost Recovery Fee (CCRF) – The Fee allows Powernet to recover various costs of network development and maintenance, regulatory proceedings and compliance, fraud monitoring, account provisioning and other costs incurred in interstate telecommunications services. This fee is not a government mandated tax or surcharge. The current fee for Enterprise customers is 4.9%. Effective February 1, 2021, the rate will be 8.9% for Enterprise customers in Florida, Illinois, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania and Texas. For customers in all other states, the rate will be 8.9% effective January 1, 2021.

Infrastructure Continuity Fee (ICF) – The purpose of the ICF is to recover costs in infrastructure related initiatives aimed at bolstering the resilience and continuity of essential business systems. These investments encompass a wide range of activities, including but not limited to: technology upgrades, security enhancements, infrastructure maintenance, business continuity. The current fee is \$39.48 for Dedicated customers, \$14.47 for Business customers, \$11.47 for Residential customers, and \$13.47 for Carrier, Wholesale, and all other customers.

Payment Processing Fee (PPF) - The Payment Processing Fee is a convenience fee that allows Powernet to recover various processing and administrative costs. This fee is not a government mandated tax or surcharge. The Payment Processing Fee for Residential customers is \$1.00. The fee for all other customers is 3.5%.

Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS) – The TRS supports telecommunications equipment for the hearing impaired. TRS fee is charged as a percentage of customer's interstate and international usage and varies state by state.

Paper Invoice Fee (PIF) – The Paper Invoice Fee (PIF) allows Powernet to recover various costs of administrative support, physical resources, such as paper, printing and postage expenses and other costs incurred by Powernet. This fee is not a government mandated tax or surcharge. The PIF per month is \$4.04 for residential customers, and \$10.14 for all business and wholesale customers. (effective March 1, 2023)