

November 4, 2025

To: API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program Licensees

Thank you for your participation in the API DEF Certification Program. Your participation in the program and commitment to manufacturing quality DEF have enabled diesel vehicles to meet continuously more stringent emissions requirements while extending the useful life of emissions reduction equipment.

Effective for 2026, the new application and license renewal fees will be increased to \$8,400. The volume-of-sale royalty fee for packaged and bulk products will remain unchanged. The complete 2026 fee structure is shown below:

The new [DEF fee structure](#)—effective January 1, 2026—is shown below and can be downloaded. Licensing fees are reviewed annually and are subject to change.

Fee Type	Fee (USD)
License application fee (DEF and Marine DEF brands)	\$8,400
License renewal fee (DEF and Marine DEF brands)	\$8,400
Additional renewal fee based on <b>PACKAGED</b> volume	\$0.001 per US gal
Additional renewal fee based on <b>BULK</b> volume	\$0.00075 per US gal
At time of annual license renewal, licensee must report volume of API-licensed DEF sold during the previous year. API assesses \$0.001 per gallon fee on each gallon for packaged product and \$0.00075 per gallon fee on each gallon for bulk product. All API-licensed DEF brands, whether sold in packages or in bulk, must be counted in the volume reported.	

[Note that the application and renewal fees are per license, not per product. For example, if a marketer submits an application for DEF product (of either DEF product type), the application fee is \$8,400. If the marketer submits an application for more than one DEF product (of any DEF product type), the application fee is still just \$8,400.]

As a reminder, your API licensing fees are necessary to cover the cost of program administration, but also enable API to meet the following goals:

- Sample and test hundreds of DEF products from the marketplace annually and provide Independent, third-party analysis of your API-licensed DEF products.
- Monitor and enforce the marketplace for unauthorized use of the API DEF Certification Mark, which can include sampling and testing of unlicensed DEF encountered.
- Heavily promote the use of API-licensed fluids via print, radio, online webinars, and other trade media.
- Engage, inform, and educate fleets and consumers on proper storage and handling of DEF to promote the preservation of fluid quality.

- Attend and participate in industry forums and committees and monitor/identify issues which may impact the API program or its licensees.

Again, we thank you for your participation in and dedication to the API Diesel Exhaust Fluid Certification Program. The program's goal is to provide the highest level of quality and service to the worldwide DEF industry, and we are committed to meeting this objective.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill O'Ryan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bill O'Ryan  
Director  
EOLCS/DEF