



Dig Safe Board Fee Regulation Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who is the Dig Safe Board?

A. We are a new regulatory and investigatory Board created to improve public and worker safety in California. We were created by the Dig Safe Act of 2016, following two deadly explosions in California's Central Valley in 2015. We are responsible for coordinating the state's education, developing safety standards, investigating dig-in accidents, enforcing violations of the Dig Safe Law, and making enforcement recommendations to the Contractors State License Board, the Public Utilities Commission, and the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Q. Why does it say Underground Facilities Safe Excavation Board and Dig Safe Board on my invoice? Are they different agencies?

A. No. The Underground Facilities Safe Excavation Board is our official name, but we chose to create an informal title, "The Dig Safe Board", in an effort to ensure name recognition and maintain that recognition among our stakeholders and the public.

Q. What is this fee for?

A. It's a new state regulatory fee that will be used to fund the Dig Safe Board's daily operations. Government Code 4216.16 (b) authorizes the Board to levy this fee on the members of California's one call centers using the same method the one call centers use to fund their operations. Both USA North 811 and DigAlert charge members a fee based on the number of locate requests those members receive each year.

Q. How is the fee calculated?

A. The Dig Safe Board's fee is calculated based on the number of member locate request received, divided by the statewide total of locate requests and multiplied by the Board's operational expenses as depicted in the equation below:

$$Fee = \frac{\text{member locate request transmissions (previous year)}}{\text{statewide locate request transmissions (previous year)}} \times \text{Board operational expenses (current year)}$$

Q. Do I still have to pay the one call center if I am paying the Dig Safe Board?

A. Yes. The Dig Safe Board fee is an additional fee one call center members will have to pay each year moving forward.

Q. Can I pay my annual Dig Safe Board fee all at once, instead of making monthly payments?

A. Yes.

Q. Can I make out one check for the one call center for both my membership fee and the Dig Safe Board fee, or do I need to make two separate checks?

A. Yes. Both USA North 811 and DigAlert will allow members to make out one check to cover Both the Dig Safe Board fee and USA North/DigAlert's membership fee.

Q. Does the Dig Safe Board have a Form W-9 it can provide to allow me to add the Board as a vendor for payments?

A. We do, but you do not need it to pay this fee. Instead you will use the Form W-9 information you have on file from DigAlert and/or USA North 811 to pay the Dig Safe Board fee. The one call centers are collecting the money on the Board's behalf.

Q.

When were notifications sent out warning me that this fee was going into effect?

A.

The Dig Safe Board began notifying one call center members about the fee in May of 2018 using the contact information you provided to the one call centers. If you never received the Board's notification you should call the one call centers and update your contact information using the phone numbers provided. USA North 811: 952-222-6501, DigAlert: 951-808-8100.

For more information about the Dig Safe Board's fee, please refer to the [2019 Cost Report](#). If you have any further questions you may contact the Board at (916) 568-3800.