



Penalty and Interest Policy

KEY FEATURES:

- **Penalty and/or interest charges will apply for obligated stewards who:**
 - **Fail to meet their registration obligations in accordance with program deadlines;**
 - **Fail to file their reports in accordance with program deadlines; and/or**
 - **Intentionally file an inaccurate report; and/or**
 - **Fail to pay an invoice according to program deadlines**

I. Overview

1. This policy provides guidance to stewards regarding conduct that will result in the application of penalty, and/or interest charges.
2. Nothing in this policy limits a program's ability to escalate a steward to the applicable Ministry or Authority as specified in the governing legislation.

II. Purpose

3. The Penalty and Interest Policy promotes fairness and consistency for all stewards and enables stewardship programs to operate in a cost-effective manner by applying a set of consistent penalties and interest to serve as a deterrent to non-compliance.

III. Scope

4. This policy applies effective January 1, 2021 for all stewards and voluntary stewards ("stewards") meeting their regulatory stewardship obligations with one or more of the following programs:
 - (a) Recycle BC;
 - (b) Multi-Material Stewardship Western (MMSW); and
 - (c) Multi-Material Stewardship Manitoba (MMSM)

IV. Policy

5. Definitions

- a. **"Obligation Date"** is the date that a steward begins supplying designated material in the province, after which they have 60 days to register with the Program (MMSM) or execute a Membership Agreement with the Program (Recycle BC, MMSW).¹
- b. **"Reporting Deadline"** is the date that packaging and paper Annual Steward Reports are due each year (May 31).

¹ Recycle BC, MMSW and MMSM stewards are obligated from the time they begin supplying obligated material in those provinces.



- c. **“Substantiation Request Date”** is the date on which the program provides the steward with written notice, by email, that the Penalty and Interest Policy will apply if the steward has not provided substantiation within the 30 days following such notice regarding one or more Annual Steward Reports submitted via the WeRecycle Portal.
- d. **“Payment Due Date”** is the date that payment is due for an invoice associated with a steward’s account. The Payment Due Date can be found on each invoice.

6. Penalties and interest will be applied in the scenarios outlined in the following charts.

Scenario	Step I	Step II
<p>Not Registered² An obligated steward who has <u>not registered</u> with the Program (MMSM) and/or has <u>not executed</u> a Membership Agreement with Program (Recycle BC, MMSW) in accordance with the Onboarding Policy², will be subject to the following:</p>	<p>For stewards that Register between the 61st and 180th day past the Obligation Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back payment and back filing to the Obligation Date • Penalty of 5% of all fees owing when report(s) invoiced; • Steward may be escalated to regulatory authority (Recycle BC, MMSW) <p>Beginning on the 121st day past the Obligation Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steward may be escalated to regulatory authority (MMSM) 	<p>For stewards that Register on or after the 180st day past the Obligation Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penalty of 10% of all fees owing when report(s) invoiced
<p>Not Filed Steward has registered/executed a membership agreement with the program, but has <u>not filed</u> its Report by the Reporting Deadline or has intentionally filed an incorrect report prior to the Reporting Deadline</p>	<p>Between the 31st and 90th day past the Reporting Deadline (Recycle BC, and MMSW):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penalty of 5% of all fees owing when invoiced; <p>Beginning on the 31st day past the Reporting Deadline (MMSM):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penalty of 10% of all fees owing when invoiced 	<p>Beginning on the 61st day past the Reporting Deadline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steward may be escalated to regulatory authority (Recycle BC, MMSW) • Membership Agreement (Recycle BC, MMSW) may be cancelled <p>Beginning on the 91st past the Reporting Deadline:</p>

² The Onboarding Policy requires new stewards to register within 60 days of their Obligation Date and file all outstanding reports within 60 days of registration. The current report must be filed within 60 days of registration, or by May 31, whichever is later.

Scenario	Step I	Step II
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Penalty of 10% of all fees owing when invoiced (Recycle BC, MMSW) <p>Beginning on the 121st day past the Reporting Deadline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steward may be escalated to regulatory authority (MMSM)
<p>Steward does not respond to program’s requests for substantiation of the steward’s report within 30 days during staff-initiated steward report review (the “Substantiation Request Date”)</p>	<p>Beginning on the 31st day past the Substantiation Request Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report will be considered to be “not filed” and the Penalty consequences associated with that scenario will apply. Interest begins accruing on the steward’s invoice(s) from the Substantiation Request Date at the RBC prime rate of interest +3% (MMSM) or CIBC prime rate of interest +4% (Recycle BC, MMSW) to the date adequate substantiation is received 	<p>Beginning on the 61st day past the Substantiation Request Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership Agreement (Recycle BC, MMSW) will be cancelled Steward may be escalated to regulatory authority (Recycle BC, MMSW) <p>Beginning on the 91st day past the Substantiation Request Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Penalty of 10% of all fees owing <p>Beginning on the 121st day following the Substantiation Request Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steward may be escalated to regulatory authority (MMSM)
<p>Not Paid Steward has registered and has filed its report by the applicable deadline, but it has <u>not paid</u> its invoice by the Payment Due Date</p>	<p>Beginning on the 31st day past the Payment Due Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interest begins accruing on the steward’s invoice(s) from the Payment Due Date at the RBC prime rate of interest +3% (MMSM) or CIBC prime rate of interest +4% (Recycle BC, MMSW) 	<p>Beginning on the 61st day past the Payment Due Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership Agreement (Recycle BC, MMSW) will be cancelled Steward may be escalated to regulatory authority (Recycle BC, MMSW) <p>Beginning on the 121st day past the Payment Due Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steward may be escalated to regulatory authority (MMSM) <p>Beginning on the 181st day past the Payment Due Date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Penalty of 10% of all fees owing when paid