

FEE GUIDELINE
AND SCHEDULE
PURSUANT TO
THE GUIDELINE
IN TERMS OF
REGULATION
19(13) OF THE
NATIONAL
CREDIT ACT, 34
OF 2005, AS
AMENDED (THE
NCA)



01/2024
MARCH 2024

FEE GUIDELINE AND SCHEDULES PURSUANT TO THE GUIDELINE IN TERMS OF REGULATION 19(13) OF THE NATIONAL CREDIT ACT, 34 OF 2005, AS AMENDED (THE NCA)

1. INTRODUCTION

This Fee Guideline is issued pursuant to the Guideline issued by the National Credit Regulator (NCR) in terms of Regulation 19(13) on 3rd November 2017 (“the 19(13) Guideline”) and the first Fee Guideline issued by the NCR on 8 June 2018 (“the 19(13) 003/2018 Fee Guideline”) and is applicable to all credit providers, all credit bureaus and data providers as defined in the 19(13) Guideline.

2. PURPOSE OF THIS GUIDELINE

2.1. This Fee Guideline prescribes the fees payable to the South African Credit and Risk Reporting Association (SACRRA) for:

- 2.1.1. the assessment, onboarding, and ongoing overall use of the Data Transmission Hub by the credit and data providers and the services provided by the SACRRA; and
- 2.1.2. the monitoring and reporting as reflected in section 4.8 of this Guideline.

3. DEFINITIONS PURSUANT TO THIS FEE GUIDELINE

[Unless otherwise herein defined, definitions of terms are as set out in the 19(13) Guideline or the Act.]

3.1. “Data Contributors” means credit providers and data providers collectively.

4. COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATION 19(13)

4.1. The NCR has contracted the services of the SACRRA to support credit providers and data providers to assist in their compliance with the Guideline to Regulation 19(13).

4.2. The process to comply with the Guideline to Regulation 19(13) by credit providers and data providers requires the following steps to be executed within the specified timelines:

- 4.2.1. **Assessment Process** - the SACRRA performs an assessment to determine the credit providers’ and data providers’ product offering and the relevant data fields required for their data submission to the credit bureaus via the Data Transmission Hub. This phase must not take longer than two (2) months to complete.

- 4.2.2. **Onboarding Process** - credit providers and data providers to develop and test their data extract in line with the prescribed Data Format and any other directive issued by the NCR.
- 4.2.3. **Go-Live-sign-off** and commencement of live submission of data to update consumers' credit and/or risk profiles on credit bureaus database. The Onboarding and Go-Live phases collectively must not take longer than six (6) months from initiation of SACRRA engagement by the data contributor.
- 4.3. All registered credit providers in NCR Categories 1-9 and all data providers who have not yet completed the initial assessment process will have to undergo the assessment process and pay the corresponding assessment fees by no later than sixty (60) calendar days after this Fee Guideline is published.
- 4.4. All credit providers in NCR Categories 1-9 and all data providers who have completed the initial assessment process must pay the corresponding published annual and/or pro-rata fees and commence the onboarding process with the SACRRA by no later than sixty (60) calendar days after this Fee Guideline is published.

5. ANNUAL FEES

- 5.1. The annual fees outlined in this Fee Guideline are for payment of maintenance and usage of the data sharing infrastructure.
- 5.2. Annual fees are mandatory for, and apply to, all credit bureaus, credit providers and data providers reflected in 4.4 above and who are being onboarded and those that are currently providing and submitting credit information to credit bureaus via the Data Transmission Hub, and for all authorised credit bureaus who receive credit information via the Data Transmission Hub.
- 5.3. A pro rata annual fee will apply to a data contributor when commissioning the onboarding process after January of each year.
- 5.4. All annual or pro-rata annual fees are payable within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of invoice.

6. NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE FEE GUIDELINE AND RESTRICTIONS

- 6.1. Any **data provider** who fails to pay the assessment, annual or pro-rata annual fees within sixty (60) calendar days of such fee being due and payable, will be reported by the SACRRA to the NCR.
- 6.2. Any **credit provider** who fails to pay the assessment, annual or pro-rata annual fees within sixty (60) calendar days of such fee being due and payable, will be reported by the SACRRA to the NCR.

- 6.3. Any **credit bureau** who fails to pay the annual fees within thirty (30) calendar days of such fee being due and payable will be reported to the NCR.
- 6.4. Any data contributor that fails to pay the annual or pro-rata annual fees for period of more than sixty (60) calendar days of such fees being due and payable will be subject to suspension of their access to Payment Profile Information.
- 6.5. In addition to the requirement to pay the assessment, annual or pro rata annual fees, all credit providers' and data providers' access to credit information will be restricted until such time as they have completed the onboarding process.
- 6.6. The NCR is entitled to take enforcement action against credit providers and credit bureaus that fail to comply with this Fee Guideline.
- 6.7. SACRRA will provide a list to the NCR monthly to enable the NCR to monitor the access to credit bureau records by providing:
 - 6.7.1. A list detailing all data contributors who have committed to a timeline and commenced the onboarding process; and
 - 6.7.2. A list of all data contributors who have commenced live submission of credit information to the credit bureaus in any given month.
- 6.8. SACRRA and the credit bureaus will monitor the quality of the credit information reported by all data contributors and the SACRRA (in addition to the CBA, on behalf of the credit bureaus) will report any data quality problems to the NCR at agreed intervals for appropriate regulatory action to be taken by the NCR to address those issues.

7. FEES SCHEDULE

- 7.1 Any data contributor or credit bureau who provides or receives credit information via the Data Transmission Hub and who is not a member of SACRRA must pay an annual fee to SACRRA in order to obtain access to the data sharing infrastructure and in respect of the required monitoring and non-payment and onboarding reporting to the NCR in terms of the 19(13) Guideline.
- 7.2 SACRRA fees published in Schedule 1 are only applicable to the year in question.

8. FEES SCHEDULE REVIEW

- 8.1. The Fees Schedule shall be reviewed annually by the NCR and published by December latest to be effective from January of the following year.

- 8.2. If the NCR for any reason fails to publish the fees for the following year, SACRRA shall nonetheless be entitled to invoice credit providers, data providers and credit bureaus on the same basis and same amount as it invoices its members for the annual membership fees.

9. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Guideline is effective immediately in accordance with the timeframe set out herein.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, QUESTIONS OR CLARITY RELATING TO THIS GUIDELINE:

Please address all queries to **Sibusiso Nhangombe** at snhangombe@ncr.org.za

Disclaimer:

While the NCR has taken reasonable care to ensure the factual accuracy of this Guideline, it cannot guarantee such accuracy, especially with regards to future events. Accordingly, NCR does not accept any liability for damages incurred by any party as a result of decisions or actions taken pursuant to this Guideline.

SCHEDULE 1

SECTION A: FEES FOR JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2024

Assessment Fees: R804 excluding VAT.

CATEGORISATION	ANNUAL TURNOVER	ANNUAL FEE (EXCLUDING VAT) R
Authorised credit bureau	Not applicable	452 495
Data Contributor - Group A	Greater than R1 billion (bn)	182 077
Data Contributor - Group B	Between R500m to R1bn	117 234
Data Contributor - Group C	between R50m and R500m	90 361
Data Contributor - Group D	between R10m and R50m	48 051
Data Contributor - Group E	between R3m and R10m	21 036
Data Contributor - Group F	less than R3m	6 956

The Annual Fees below are applicable for smaller data contributors (with turnover less than R3m and an annual record count less than 50,000 per entity) using secondary service providers or loan management system vendors qualified to be affiliated to the SACRRA to submit data on behalf of credit providers and data providers:

CATEGORISATION	RECORD COUNT	ANNUAL FEE (EXCLUDING VAT) R
Data contributor - Group 1	1 to 10K	874
Data contributor - Group 2	10,001 to 25K	1 224
Data contributor - Group 3	25 001 to 50K	1 750

Disclaimer for Schedule 1

Where an organisation has one or more subsidiaries which are separately CIPC registered legal entities, each such separately CIPC registered legal entity will be required to pay the fees individually as per the categorisation listed in the above table. This includes organisations that have their businesses structured in such a manner that the data submissions from their branches, divisions or brands are extracted and submitted by separate Data or IT departments or third-party service providers. Under no circumstance would the consolidation of fees be allowed for multiple entities under a holding company or companies.

Only organisations who have divisions or brands within the organisation will be allowed one Group categorisation fee and share their various divisions or brand's files under separate Supplier Reference Numbers (SRNs).