



STATE OF WASHINGTON
BOARD OF PILOTAGE COMMISSIONERS

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January 22, 2025

**NOTICE TO SHIPPING COMPANIES AND AGENTS
REGARDING PUGET SOUND PILOTAGE DISTRICT TARIFF
TRAINING SURCHARGE INCREASE**

(Effective February 1, 2025)

The guiding mission of the Board of Pilotage Commissioners (BPC) is safety. The BPC's Pilot Training Program, as provided in [RCW 88.16.090](#) and [WAC 363-116-078](#), is a key BPC program that supports this mission. The training surcharge portion of the Puget Sound Pilotage District (PSPD) tariff funds and supports the training program. The revenue from the surcharge is used for exams, stipends for trainees, and training program enhancement opportunities. The training program has anywhere from 3-10 trainees at a time, typically in different phases of their programs.

The BPC added a training surcharge to the PSPD tariff effective January 1, 2011. The charge was \$15 per trainee per assignment. The amount was not changed until 2021 when it was increased to \$19 per trainee per assignment by the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC).

The BPC has requested, and the UTC has approved an increase to the training surcharge in the PSPD tariff from \$19 per trainee per assignment to \$23 per trainee per assignment. The increase was adopted by the UTC at their January 16, 2025 open public meeting. The effective date of the increased surcharge is February 1, 2025.

Per [RCW 81.116.020\(4\)](#), in setting tariffs, the UTC must include a tariff surcharge to fund the stipend the BPC is authorized to pay to pilot trainees and to use in its pilot training program under [RCW 88.16.035](#).

The increase provides to the BPC additional funding for:

- Ongoing simulator training for pilot trainees;
- Ongoing psychometric review and validation of the BPC's exam process and training program;
- Ongoing input from DEIB specialists regarding outreach and messaging; and
- Board consideration for a future training program stipend increase.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Executive Director Jaimie Bever at Jaimie.Bever@wsdot.wa.gov or 206.515.3887.