Merchant Surcharging Considerations and Requirements

Before you decide to add a surcharge, or checkout fee, consider the following:

- Is surcharging permitted in my state?
  - **States prohibiting or limiting surcharging as of October 1, 2019**
    - Colorado
    - Connecticut
    - Kansas
    - Massachusetts
    - Oklahoma
  - **30 days’ notice required**
    - Merchants are REQUIRED to notify Visa and their acquirer 30 days prior to surcharging.

- When can I begin?
  - **Credit transactions only**
    - Surcharging applies only to credit transactions in the U.S. and U.S. territories. Debit and prepaid cannot be surcharged.

- When can I surcharge?
  - **No more than the cost of acceptance**
    - The surcharge must not exceed your cost of acceptance for the credit card. ³

- How much can I surcharge?
  - **Proper signage and notification required**
    - Disclosures must be provided at the point of entry and point of sale (Click link at right for examples).
    - Itemization of the final surcharge amount must be identified separately on the transaction receipt.

- What must I disclose to my customers?

Visa’s Position on Surcharging
Visa remains opposed to surcharging, a practice that penalizes cardholders for using their preferred form of payment.

**The benefits of card acceptance include:**
- Increased sales
- A fast and convenient checkout experience
- Enhanced security
- Guaranteed payment and faster processing time

More information on surcharging guidelines and requirements can be found at [www.visa.com/merchantsurcharging](http://www.visa.com/merchantsurcharging)

³ In cases when the merchant’s cost of acceptance exceeds 4% of the underlying transaction amount, the merchant cannot assess a surcharge above 4%.