Updated 11/5/26

Commercial Use Authorizations: Fee Collection

CUA holders are required to ensure their clients, age 16 and up, have paid the park's $15 per person entrance fee or have a valid Interagency or Denali Annual Pass. All CUA holders must report their fee collection method to dena_cua@nps.gov by May 15 or prior to operating. Guides are exempt from entrance fees. Learn more on the Denali Fees Website.

Fee Methods

Operators may utilize multiple fee methods

	Does the cost of your program include entrance fees?	
How do you want to pay for entrance fees?	**Yes**, the park entrance fee is **included** in the cost of the program- the **operator will pay entrance fees**.	**No**, the park entrance fee is **NOT included** in the cost of the program- the **participant will pay entrance fees.**
In person fee collection at a Visitor Center (limited hours) or automatic fee machine.	The CUA guide pays the entrance fee for the group at the Visitor Center or at the automatic fee machine located outside the Murie Science and Learning Center. Participants with a **valid pass** do not need to pay any additional fee and should be refunded the entrance fee collected as part of the program cost.	Participants pay the entrance fee at the Visitor Center or at the automatic fee machine located outside the Murie Science and Learning Center. Participants with a **valid pass** have already paid the entrance fee. Guides must verify participants have correctly paid their fee or verify their pass.
Online fee collection through pay.gov.	The CUA holder (guide or office staff) pays the entrance fee for the group using pay.gov. Be prepared to show a digital copy of the receipt. Participants with a **valid pass** have already paid the entrance fee and should be refunded the entrance fee collected as part of the program cost.	Participants pay their entrance fee using pay.gov. This can be done during the program or in advance. Participants with a **valid pass** have already paid the entrance fee. The CUA holder must verify participants have correctly paid their fee or verify their pass.
Pre-printed entrance receipts	The CUA holder completes a Fee Management Agreement with the DENA Fee Manager. The operator pre-purchases 7-day preprinted receipts at 10% discount. The operator provides each participant with a dated entrance receipt upon arrival in the park. Participants with a **valid pass** do not need the pre-paid entrance receipt and should be refunded the entrance fee collected as part of the program cost.	The CUA holder completes a Fee Management Agreement with the DENA Fee Manager. The operator pre-purchases 7-day preprinted receipts at 10% discount. The operator sells each participant an entrance receipt (must be sold for face value) unless they have a **valid pass**. The CUA holder must verify participant's passes.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is a Valid Pass?

A: There are a variety of passes a client may hold including a 7-day entrance pass, Denali Annual Pass, or one of the America the Beautiful Interagency passes. You can learn more about these passes online and review the Guide to Entrance Fees at Denali National Park as resources for training guides on recognizing valid passes. Contact the Fee Manager to see if Fee Training is available.

Q: What if my group is camping or riding a bus?

A: Fees for camping and buses are charged in addition to the entrance fee. You can pay entrance fees when you check in for the campground or bus trip if it is on the first day your group visits the park. This option functions the same as the in-person fee collection method in the table above. If it is not the group's first day in the park, be prepared to show valid entrance receipts or park passes when you check in for the bus or campground.

Q: Can the Weekly Entrance fee be upgraded to a pass?

A: Any individual who has a receipt for their entrance fee paid within the last 7 days can apply that $15 towards an Annual or Lifetime Pass of greater value. However, if the CUA holder paid the entrance fee for the whole group that receipt cannot be applied towards a pass upgrade since it is not for an individual. The pre-paid entrance receipts **do** count as an individual receipt. Upgrades can be done at the Denali Visitor Center, Winter Visitor Center, and Walter Harper Talkeetna Ranger Station.

Q: Can a CUA holder change their method of fee collection?

A: Yes, notify the CUA Office at dena_cua@nps.gov.

Q: How do pre-printed entrance receipts work?

A: Once a Fee Management Agreement (FMA) is signed with Denali National Park, a CUA holder can pre-purchase a set quantity of pre-printed entrance receipts from Denali at a 10% discount ($13.50/person). A pre-printed entrance receipt is good for seven-days from the date it is given to a client. Before giving them out to clients, CUA holders must date the pre-printed receipts for their valid seven-day timeframe with a pen or stamp. A double dated stamp can be purchased to make this process more efficient. Contact Denali's Fee Manager for more information on stamp size and parameters.

Q: What if I purchase too many pre-printed entrance receipts and have a lot left over? What if I didn't purchase enough?

A: At the end of the season, CUA holders may contact Denali's Fee Manager to turn in extra unused pre-printed entrance receipts and receive a refund; however, pre-printed entrance receipts may also be kept and used the next year with a valid FMA. Please review the agreement for details on eligible refunds or exchanges. If you need to replenish your stock mid-season, simply reach out to the Fee Manager.

Q: Can I use multiple fee collection methods?

A: Yes. As an example, a CUA holder could utilize pre-printed entrance receipts for one type of customer. For another type of customer, they could verify that customers have independently paid their entrance fee.