

U.S. Fee Exemptions (April 2015)¹

Entity defined as federal-party	Statute	Scope of exemption
Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.	12 U.S.C. § 1819(b) P.L. 101-73, § 209, August 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 216.	Same as United States attorney or other federal agency counsel. Note: Depository institutions under FDIC receivership or conservatorship are not granted Federal-party status and thus must pay filing and other fees when litigating in their own names.
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp.	12 U.S.C. § 1452(e) & (f)	Same as United States attorney or other federal agency counsel.

Specially exempt plaintiff	Statute	Scope of exemption
Military servicemen & veterans	38 U.S.C. §§ 4301-4335, Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA).	No fees or court costs are charged or taxed against any person claiming rights under USERRA. 38 U.S.C. § 4323(h)(1)
Seamen	28 U.S.C. § 1916	Seamen prepay no fees or costs for filing suits for wages, salvage, or enforcement of health or safety laws.

Judicial reviews of administrative	Statute	Scope of exemption
Commodities Futures Trading Act, petition for enforcement of reparation award	7 U.S.C. § 18(d)(1)	Petitioner is not liable for costs in the district court or at any subsequent stage of the proceedings unless they accrue upon appeal.
National Railroad Adjustment Board, petition for enforcement of order	45 U.S.C. § 153(p)	Petitioner is not liable for costs in the district court or at any subsequent stage of the proceedings unless they accrue upon appeal; such costs shall be paid out of the appropriation for the expenses of the courts of the United States.
Packers and Stockyards Act, petition for enforcement of damages award	7 U.S.C. § 210(f)	Petitioner is not liable for costs in the district court or at any subsequent stage of the proceedings unless they accrue upon appeal.
Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, appeal to U.S. district court from reparation	7 U.S.C. § 499g(d)	Appellee is not liable for costs in the district court.
Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, petition for enforcement of reparation	7 U.S.C. § 499g(b)	Petitioner is not liable for costs in the district court or at any subsequent stage of the proceedings unless they accrue upon appeal.
Railroad Retirement Board, applicant to U.S. Court of Appeals for review of benefit decision	45 U.S.C. § 355(f)	An applicant for review of a final decision of the Board concerning a claim for benefits shall not be liable for costs, including costs of service, or costs of printing records, except that costs may be assessed by the court against such applicant if the court determines that the proceedings for such review have been instituted or continued without reasonable ground.

¹ Note: The exemption for the “United States” contained in the court miscellaneous fee schedules applies exclusively to any department, agency, or instrumentality in the executive or legislative branches of the United States Government (USG), any independent federal agency or wholly-owned USG corporation, and Federal Reserve banks and branches. The exemption is not available for private individuals or entities solely because of contractual relationships with federal government entities. Entities seeking to receive this (or any) fee exemption bear the burden of establishing that they are entitled to the exemption. See Guide to Judiciary Policy, Vol. 4, Ch. 6, § 610.60.10.