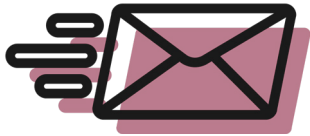


# E-Filing in Idaho and Envelope Fees

## WHAT IS AN “ENVELOPE” AND WHY DOES IT INVOLVE A FEE?



When parties in a civil court case in Idaho electronically submit case documents for filing, the e-filing software provider, Tyler Technologies, charges a fee. This fee is for processing each set of filings through what are called “electronic envelopes.”

**Beginning Dec. 1, 2023, civil filers will pay this fee of \$5 per envelope.**

This fee does not apply in criminal cases or in certain other exceptions. It will be a recoverable cost of litigation through existing court rules.

## PAYING FOR COURT TECHNOLOGY

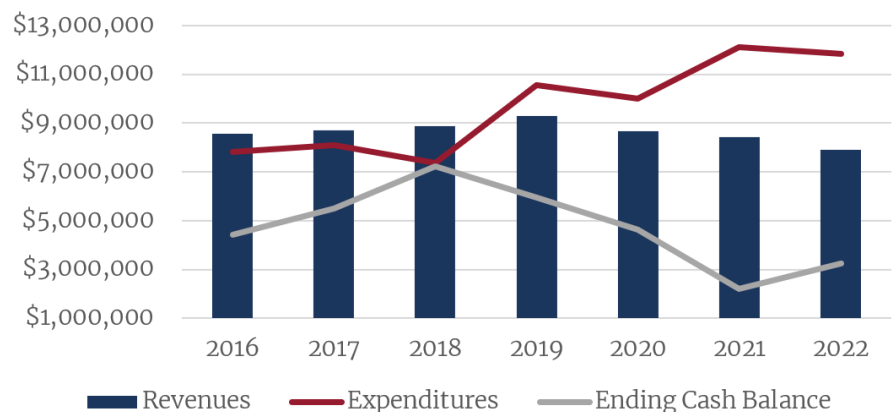
Today’s courts rely on a robust suite of technology including digital case files, videoconferencing, online fine and fee payments, and underlying networking and security systems necessary to the system’s operation.

Funding for this technology — and for most of the Judicial Branch’s information technology employees — primarily comes from the Court Technology Fund, a dedicated fund established by Idaho Code section 1-1623. Nine-tenths of the fund’s revenue is provided through fees created by the Legislature and imposed in criminal and civil court cases.

Revenues in this fund have failed to keep pace with the costs of supporting access to justice in a modern court system. Court fines and fees that support the fund have declined an average of 5.2% each year over the last three years. Court technology costs have increased about 9.3% each year for the last five years.

The Idaho Supreme Court is actively reassessing its technology costs and developing a long-term funding structure for these operations. Meanwhile, it is taking short-term steps to preserve existing services. **The Court Technology Fund previously covered the envelope fees, but no longer has the resources to do so.**

### Court Technology Fund Financial Activity



## FEES AND COURT ACCESS

**This fee is not a requirement to file in an Idaho court.** Any party who is required to file electronically by Rule 4 of the Idaho Rules for Electronic Filing and Service may choose to do so using a kiosk at their local courthouse, paying any applicable fees by cash or check at the office of the clerk of the district court. For civil filings in this manner, the filer will not be charged the envelope fee.

Filers who are exempt from paying court filing fees under the Idaho Constitution, statute, court rule, court order or other regulation will not be charged this fee. This includes indigent filers, government agencies and filers on cases seeking civil protection.

## HOW MANY ENVELOPES DO I NEED?

Idaho Rule for Electronic Filing and Service 6(c) states **“Documents that pertain to the same case filed and/or served through the electronic filing system at approximately the same time must be submitted in the same envelope.”**

In short, if you file multiple documents at a time in one single case, you should file them together in one envelope and pay a single envelope fee.

If your envelope is rejected and you are refile, copy the envelope — do not build a new one. This is required by rule and will avoid an extra fee.

