



Lab Billing Questions

What is the fee?

The fee is \$50 for each initial specimen submitted to the Georgia Public Health Laboratory for newborn blood screening. Invoices are mailed weekly from the Georgia Public Health Laboratory (GPHL). However, all residents of Georgia have access to services, regardless of income.

The first specimen submitted for every infant will be billable, regardless of the submitter. Additional specimens submitted will be considered “repeat specimens” and will either be invoiced or processed free of additional charge as specified below.

Will there be a fee for a repeat newborn blood screen?

There will **not** be a fee for the following circumstances:

1. No data or no blood on the collection form
2. Second collection; initial specimen was collected at <24 hours
3. Prior abnormal result; repeat requested by GPHL or NBS follow-up program
4. GPHL error
5. Pediatrician or other provider mandatory collection, including:
 - Repeat specimen: prior abnormal result
 - Repeat specimen: premature or low birth weight specimen at 4 weeks of age
 - Infant had a blood transfusion; 2 repeat specimens will be provided at no extra charge

There **will** be a fee for the following circumstances:

1. Prior unsatisfactory specimen from the **same** submitter
2. General provider request, without medical necessity (see above exceptions)
3. Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU); > 2 specimens per infant
4. Failure to use the UPS transportation system in a timely manner resulting in specimen arrival at GPHL more than seven (7) days after collection (improper batching specimens, for example)