



FTZ 147 Designation & Activation Overview

Why Consider a Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ)?

Foreign Trade Zones are secure areas under U.S. Customs supervision that are considered outside of U.S. commerce for duty purposes. Businesses operating in an FTZ can benefit from:

- **Duty deferral or elimination** on imported goods
- **Reduced customs processing fees**
- **Streamlined logistics and inventory control**
- **Cash flow improvements**
- **Competitive advantages** for manufacturers, distributors, and logistics providers

If your company imports, assembles, stores, or exports goods, an FTZ can be a powerful tool for reducing costs and increasing efficiency.

Grantee Application & Review Process

- Submit a **draft application** and **relevant fee** to the Grantee for initial review. Send to:
 - Zone Grantee: agantz@greaterreading.org | Aaron Gantz, VP of Economic Development & Strategy
 - Zone Administrator: FTZ@CampbellTradeGroup.com | Randy P. Campbell, FTZ 147 Administrator
- Once the application and fees are received, the **Foreign Trade Corp. of Southern PA Board of Directors** will review and vote—typically via email.
- **Timeline:** Approx. **10 days to 2 weeks**, depending on Board availability.

Submission to the FTZ Board:

The Zone Administrator can submit the application to the FTZ Board on your behalf, with you copied, or you may submit it directly and copy the Zone Administrator and Zone Grantee—whichever is easier for your team.

Required Fees

Fee Type	Amount	Notes
Application for Designation	\$2,500	One-time fee; required before submission to the FTZ Board.
Application for Activation	\$2,500	One-time fee; required before Grantee issues Activation Concurrence.
Application for Production Notification	\$2,500	One-time fee; required before submission to the FTZ Board.
Annual Operator Fee (per site)	\$12,000	Due upon activation and on the same date annually. No proration.

Zone Schedule

Payment Methods:

Payable to **FTZ Corp of Southern PA**

Accepted via **check or bank transfer** (credit cards not accepted).

The FTZ Corp of Southern Pennsylvania (FTZSPA) is the Grantee of FTZ 147. The Greater Reading Chamber Alliance (GRCA) serves in an administrative and regulatory capacity supporting the

FTZSPA. Neither the FTZSPA nor the GRCA is a vendor to FTZ Operators and therefore cannot accommodate payment through third-party pay systems or outside payment platforms.

To ensure compliance and smooth administration of the Zone, each FTZ Operator must designate an internal primary point of contact who will be responsible for managing all FTZ-related invoices and payments directly with GRCA.

This policy helps us:

- Maintain appropriate compliance and recordkeeping standards;
- Avoid delays or errors associated with third-party systems;
- Provide consistent communication and support directly to our FTZ partners.

Please confirm your designated internal point of contact for FTZ matters.

Operator Agreement

- A draft Operator Agreement template is provided once the Application for Designation is received.
- The agreement must be executed before Activation Concurrence is granted but is not required before designation.

Activation Concurrence Process

To receive the Grantee's Activation Concurrence Letter, submit the following:

- Copy of the Activation Application Letter to CBP, including square footage to be activated
- Activation map
- Insurance rider naming FTZ Corp of Southern PA as an additional insured
(Refer to the Operator Agreement for specific requirements)

Timeline: Issued within a few days, depending on availability and document completeness.

Pre-Review: A formal draft of the full activation application is not required, but the above items must be in order.

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Inspection & Activation

- The Grantee requests to be invited to the CBP security inspection and will attend if possible.
- Their attendance is not required and will not delay activation if they are unavailable.

Local CBP Contact:

Port Director Rory Bates rory.e.bates@cbp.dhs.gov

Timeline for CBP Activation: 30–90 days, depending on the site and readiness.