
Reefer and Cold Chain Invoice Audit Checklist

Run these checks on every carrier invoice before payment approval, in order: the early ones catch the most money. Industry experience puts AP overpayment at 1-3% of carrier spend when invoices are paid as billed.

The universal 12-point checklist

- Match line-haul to the rate confirmation, not to the invoice.
- Verify the fuel surcharge: correct base, correct percentage, correct week.
- Detention: arrival and departure times documented, free time correct, rate per the rate con.
- Layover: authorized in writing and billed at the agreed rate.
- Lumper: receipt attached, amount matches, not also billed to the shipper.
- TONU: only where the rate con allows it, at the stated amount.
- Duplicate check: invoice number and load number against payment history.
- Extra stops: count and rate match the rate confirmation.
- Math: line items sum to the total. Watch hand-keyed invoices.
- Remit-to: matches the carrier packet or a verified factoring NOA.
- Quick pay: discount actually applied when quick-pay terms are taken.
- Signed POD attached before approval. It protects you on rebills.

Reefer and cold chain checks

- Temperature-related charges tie back to the temp log, not just an invoice line.
- Reefer fuel and idle claims documented for layover and detention.
- Pre-cool and washout charges authorized on the rate confirmation.
- Product cut or rejection deductions reconciled before payment, not after.

A checklist audits one invoice at a time. Past roughly 1,000 loads a month, deadline pressure wins. ClearLane runs these checks on every load before payment as a managed service. getclearlane.com/services/carrier-invoice-audit/ • info@getclearlane.com