Update EMV-Based Contactless Terminal Requirements

If you support contactless transactions your terminals must support EMV-based contactless technology.

As acceptance and usage of contactless payments increases in the U.S. it's important to provide cardholders as secure an experience as possible. EMV-based contactless technology, qVSDC, has been used globally for many years and is considered best practice industry-wide. Similar to contact chip cards, EMV contactless supports cryptographic functionality for more secure transactions than legacy MSD contactless.

To address the number of merchants still accepting MSD contactless payments, effective April 2023, Visa will begin assessing a \$0.10 fee for every transaction identified with POS Entry Mode (91), MSD.

Merchants that have not completed their certification to support EMV-based contactless should contact their Relationship Manager as soon as possible. Clients that are unable to support EMV-based contactless technology by April 2023 should consider disabling contactless capabilities at their store locations to avoid the fee.

As a reminder the table below outlines terminal requirements by brand and effective date.

United States / Canada

Brand	Effective Date	Terminal Type and Requirement
Amex	April 9, 2021	All existing contactless enabled POS systems must support contactless EMV mode.
Visa	October 19, 2019 (Canada)	All POS terminals in the ecosystem to remove MSD. Transactions submitted to Visa in this manner will be declined. Automated Fuel Dispenser (AFD) transactions with a contactless MSD card or mobile device transactions with MSD will continue to be permitted.
Visa	January 2021 (U.S.)	MSD Contactless will no longer be supported. Transactions may decline. Non-compliance may result in fines.
		All new chip card terminals deployed with Contactless D-PAS support must disable support for contactless magstripe mode.
Discover	January 15, 2021	Existing deployed chip card terminals that support Contactless D-PAS may continue to support contactless magstripe mode.
Mastercard	October 1, 2022 (Canada)	Any new contactless-enabled terminal must only support EMV mode contactless.
Mastercard	April 1, 2023 (U.S./LAC/AP)	Effective April 1, 2023, all contactless-enabled POS terminals deployed in the US/LAC/AP regions must only support EMV mode contactless transactions. Magnetic Stripe mode contactless must not be supported.

Visa recommends that merchants display contactless signage using the EMV contactless indicator and symbol (at the store entrance, near the terminal, and at the time of payment) to remind customers that they can tap.