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# MEDIA BUREAU ANNOUNCES FILING WINDOW FOR QUALIFIED LOW POWER TELEVISION STATIONS TO CONVERT TO CLASS A STATUS PURSUANT TO THE LOW POWER PROTECTION ACT MAY 31, 2024 – MAY 30, 2025

### All Rules Implementing the Low Power Protection Act are Effective

#### MB Docket No. 23-126

By this Public Notice the Media Bureau announces that all rules implementing the Low Power Protection Act (LPPA) are in effect and the one-year window for qualified low power television (LPTV) stations to apply for Class A status will open on May 31, 2024 and close on May 30, 2025 (LPPA Window).<sup>1</sup>

On December 12, 2023, the Commission released a *Report and Order (Order)* that adopted rules to implement the LPPA.<sup>2</sup> The LPPA provides qualifying LPTV stations with a limited window of opportunity to apply for primary spectrum use status as Class A television stations.<sup>3</sup> The rules adopted in the *Order* took effect on February 9, 2024, and sections 73.6030(c), 73.6030(d), 73.3580(c)(7), and the revisions to FCC Form 2100, Schedule F, which contain new or modified information collection requirements that required review by OMB,<sup>4</sup> were approved by OMB on May 7, 2024.<sup>5</sup> A notice announcing that these rules and other information collections were approved was published today in the

<sup>2</sup> Low Power Protection Act, Pub. L. 117-344, 136 Stat. 6193 (2023); *Implementation of the Low Power Protection Act*, MB Docket No. 23-126, Report and Order, FCC 23-112 (rel. Dec. 12, 2023) (*Order*).

<sup>3</sup> See Order at para. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Bureau previously stated that at the conclusion of the OMB review process it would announce the effective date of the information collections in a document published in the Federal Register and thereafter, once the revised application is available for use by applicants, issue a Public Notice establishing the one-year LPPA Window. *See Media Bureau Announces Effective Date of Certain Low Power Protection Act Rules*, MB Docket No. 23-126, Public Notice, DA 24-26 (MB Jan. 10, 2024). Because revisions to the necessary application are complete, we are simultaneously publishing the aforementioned Federal Register notice and announcing the dates for the LPPA Window.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Order at para. 61 & Appx. B (Final Rules); 47 CFR §§ 73.6030(c) (Application Requirements); 73.6030(d) (Licensing Requirements); 73.3580(c)(7) (Local public notice of filing of broadcast applications). The information collection requirements contained in the rules that require OMB approval are subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). Pub. L. No. 104-13, 109 Stat. 163 (1995) (codified in Chapter 35 of title 44 U.S.C.). See Federal Communications Commission, 47 CFR Part 73, Low Power Protection Act, Final Rule, 89 FR 1466 (Jan. 10, 2024); *Media Bureau Announces Effective Date of Certain Low Power Protection Act Rules*, Public Notice, DA 24-26 (MB Jan. 10, 2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Notices of Office of Management and Budget Action, ICR Reference Nos. 202403-3060-012 (OMB Control No. 3060-0928) and 202403-3060-013 (OMB Control No. 3060-1326), May 7, 2024.

Federal Register, and these rules and other information collections are effective.<sup>6</sup>

Applications in the LPPA Window will be filed electronically via the Commission's Licensing and Management System (LMS) on FCC Form 2100, Schedule F<sup>7</sup> and applicants will be required to pay the requisite fee for an application for a "new license" for a Class A station (\$425.00).

In order to be eligible for Class A status under the LPPA, a qualified LPTV licensee must have complied with the eligibility requirements set forth in section 73.6030(b) of the Commission's rules<sup>8</sup> and complete all required certifications in FCC Form 2100, Schedule F. A qualified LPTV licensee is required to submit, as part of its application, a statement concerning the station's operating schedule during the 90 days preceding January 5, 2023 and a list of locally produced programs aired during that time period.<sup>9</sup> The applicant may also submit, or may be requested by Commission staff to submit, other documentation to support its certification that the licensee meets the eligibility requirements for a Class A license under the LPPA.<sup>10</sup> All stations afforded Class A status under the LPPA are reminded that they will be required to continue to comply with the service requirements applicable to Class A stations in order to maintain such status.<sup>11</sup>

For additional information, contact Kim Matthews, Policy Division, Media Bureau at <u>Kim.Matthews@fcc.gov</u> or (202) 418-2154; Emily Harrison, Video Division, Media Bureau at <u>Emily.Harrison@fcc.gov</u> or (202) 418-1665; Kevin Harding, Video Division, Media Bureau at <u>Kevin.Harding@fcc.gov</u> or (202) 418-7077; or Mark Colombo, Video Division, Media Bureau at <u>Mark.Colombo@fcc.gov</u> or (202) 418-7611.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See 89 FR 47088. See also Order at para. 62 (delegating authority to the Media Bureau for the purpose of amending FCC Form 2100 as necessary to implement the licensing process adopted in the Order and to establish the one-year application filing window once the revised form is available for use by applicants).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Instructions on completing Form 2100, Schedule F are available at <u>https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-332131A1.pdf</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 47 CFR § 73.6030(b) (Eligibility Requirements).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 47 CFR § 73.6030(c) (Application Requirements).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 47 CFR §§ 73.6030(e), (f). A station afforded Class A status under the LPPA must continue to operate in a Designated Market Areas (DMA) with not more than 95,000 television households in order to maintain its Class A status, subject to certain exceptions, and is not permitted to initiate a move to a different DMA with more than 95,000 television households at the time of the move and still retain its Class A status. 47 CFR § 73.6030(e).

## APPENDIX

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR ACCESSING AND FILING ON LMS

#### **General Log-in Instructions**

1. Access the LMS applicant data entry home page here:

https://enterpriseefiling.fcc.gov/dataentry/login.html

2. Log-in using the FRN associated with the station.

For more information and help using the LMS system, contact: (877) 480-3201 TTY: (717) 333-2824.

#### **Application For Conversion to Class A**

- 1. Click on the "Authorizations" tab on the left top of the page.
- 2. Click on the file number of the current license for the station.
- 3. Click on the "File an Application" button.
- 4. Select "Modification of License, Convert from LPTV to Class A (Schedule F)" from the drop-down menu.
- 5. Complete the application and click "Submit."