#### FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION



## WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU COMMON CARRIER SERVICES FEE FILING GUIDE

## SECTION 8 FEES (PROCESSING FEES)

#### FOR:

- Section 214 Applications
- Tariff Filings
- Accounting

This is an unofficial compilation of the radio services and requests for FCC actions that are subject to fees. The public should consult the Commission's Rules as set out in Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for application filing requirements. Further information on fees may be obtained at Part I, Subpart G of the CFR or in the Commission's official decision implementing the Congressional Schedule of Charges. This decision is published in the FCC Record or may be purchased from the Commission's current copy contractor.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The authority of the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) to impose and collect fees and associated charges is contained in Title III, Section 3001 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-239), Section 8, revising 47 U.S.C. 158, which directs the Commission to prescribe charges for certain types of applications and other filings by communications entities over which it has jurisdiction. Application processing fees are deposited in the U.S. Treasury.

This Fee Filing Guide is considered a reference guide to identify and describe the entire filing requirements for the Wireline Competition Bureau. It is meant to be a handy reference of the services and requests for FCC actions for which the Wireline Competition Bureau has responsibility that are subject to a fee. The guide consists of two parts, Parts A and B, as well as a breakdown of the types of applications, form numbers, fee amounts, payment type codes, and the mailing address for each service provided.

Part A provides instructions on how to pay a fee and identifies other processing services available to the requestor. Always read Part A before attempting to complete any of the forms required with your submission. Part B provides specific information pertaining to the Wireline Competition Bureau's Section 8 (application) fees.

If further information is required that cannot be answered in this guide, please consult the Commission's Rules as set forth in Title 47, Part 1, Subpart G, Section 1.1101 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). Additional copies of this guide may be obtained by calling (202) 418-FORM. All fees are subject to modification as required by Congress.

#### PART A

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR APPLICANTS/LICENSEES WHO SUBMIT FEEABLE FILINGS

Effective December 3, 2001, the use of the FCC Registration Number (FRN) is <u>mandatory</u>. Failure to register or include an FRN on your FCC Form 159 will result in your application being returned as unprocessable. If you do not yet have an FRN, you can obtain one through the FCC website listed below, or by filling out the registration form (Form 160) and submitting the registration form along with your payment and FCC Form 159. Unless the payer and the applicant are the same person or entity, a separate FRN number must be used for the payer FRN and the applicant FRN. If you are acting as an agent for an entity, and the remittance (i.e., check or credit card) carries your name as an official designated to pay on behalf of the entity, you must include the entity's name both as payer and applicant in order to use the same FRN. Failure to follow these instructions will result in your application being returned as unprocessable. Please note that transactions with the FCC require the use of the FCC FRN.

Therefore, please have the FRN available when contacting or submitting documents to the FCC.

Ways to obtain a FCC Form 159:

- Go to http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html.
- Call the FCC's Form Distribution Center at 1-800-418-FORM [3676].
- Pick up the form at the Commission in Room TW-B200
- Call CORES Helpdesk at 1-877-480-3201.

If you were registered in the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau's Universal Licensing System (ULS) and your registration included all the information we needed to issue a Registration Number, you have already been pre-registered. You may want to check CORES to determine if you are still registered, or if you have forgotten your registration number.

Ways to obtain an FCC Registration Number (FRN):

- Go to www.fcc.gov, click on E-Filing at the top of the page, and scroll down to the CORES Registration link.
- Check your pre-assigned number at <a href="www.fcc.gov">www.fcc.gov</a>, click on E-Filing at the top of the page, and scroll down to the CORES Registration link.
- File FCC Form 160, (CORES Registration). You may obtain the form at http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html or by calling the FCC's CORES Helpdesk at 1-877-480-3201. You may also pick up the form in Commission Room TW-B200. Mailing instructions are on the form.

If you are unable to register electronically, you can still submit your application for a Registration Number (FCC Form 160) directly to U.S. Bank (along with your filing documents and payment) or fax the FRN registration form to the CORES Helpdesk at (202) 418-7869 for some filing procedures. U.S. Bank will register you and you will receive a confirmation letter from the FCC through the U.S. Postal Service mail.

#### **DEBT COLLECTION IMPROVEMENT ACT**

In accordance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act (DCIA), the Commission will begin withholding action on applications and other requests for benefits upon discovery that the entity applying for or seeking benefits is delinquent in its non-tax debts owed to the Commission, and dismiss such applications or requests if the delinquent debt is not resolved. Our application fee rules have been amended to state that we will withhold action on applications or other requests if payment of the delinquent debt is not made or satisfactory arrangements for payment are not made. Those rule amendments are effective October 1, 2004.

#### **REMITTANCE ADVICE - FCC FORM 159**

The Remittance Advice, FCC Form 159, must accompany payment to the Federal Communications Commission for Regulatory Fees, Application Processing Fees, Fines, Forfeitures, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) billings or any other debt due to the FCC. The information on this form is collected and stored in a database to ensure credit of full payment of monies due, to expedite any refunds due, and to service public inquiries. Please refer to Part B/C of this guide for specific form requirements. Reproduced forms are acceptable. FCC Form 159C is a remittance advice continuation sheet that must be used when paying for more than two call signs in a single filing or when paying for multiple applicants in a single filing. Each call sign and/or applicant must be listed separately on the FCC Form 159/FCC Form 159C.

#### METHOD OF PAYMENT (DO NOT SEND CASH)

Payment of fees may be made by check, bank draft, money order, credit card or wire transfer. If paying by check, bank draft, money order or wire transfer, your remittance must be denominated in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. financial institution and made payable to "FCC." No postdated, altered or third party checks will be accepted. No checks will be accepted for processing if older than six months. The Commission will accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover credit cards. Online credit card payments are also acceptable. Online credit card payment is an available option when filing electronic application submissions. If you choose this method of combined filing/payment, do not send an FCC Form 159 to U.S. Bank.

If paying by wire, applicants located in foreign countries should contact their local bank to determine what U.S. financial institution their bank is affiliated with that will allow a transfer of funds. Please keep in mind that there may be an additional transfer fee added from your bank for this service. If an additional cost is required by your bank, and you have not included additional funds to cover this cost, it will be taken out of the funds that will be transferred. This will result in your remaining transfer amount being insufficient to cover the fee for the filing. Please check with your bank prior to completing this transaction to determine their policy. For further instructions in making payment by wire see our website at http://www.fcc.gov/fees/wiretran.html.

Payment of fees, fines, and other debts may also be made by electronic payment. This is designed specifically for larger corporations capable of CPU/CPU communication. Under this method, the payer bank wires funds directly to the Commission's lockbox bank. As with cash payments, the funds must be wired from a U.S. financial institution. To obtain more information about electronic payment and how it works, please contact the Revenue and Receivables Operations Group at (202) 418-1995. For further information on making payment by electronic transfer see our website at http://www.fcc.gov/fees/electran.html.

#### NONFEEABLE APPLICATIONS

All nonfeeable applications filed in Washington, DC must be filed directly with the Secretary's Office, Room TWB204, 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554 and should be captioned Attention: Enforcement Bureau.

#### FEE EXEMPT APPLICATIONS

Please check the appropriate block on your application, **and if you have not** previously done so, provide the proper documentation, as required, to certify that your application is fee exempt. 47 CFR, Part 1, Section 1.1114 of the Commission's rules explains who qualifies as fee exempt.

#### MANAGING DIRECTOR DECISIONS

Requests for waivers, fee determinations, reconsiderations, applications for review, deferments, and specific refund requests are referred directly to the Office of the Managing Director. Each request is forwarded to the Office of General Counsel for review and legal determination. 47 CFR, Part 1, Sections 1.1113 & 1.1117 govern the Commission's policies in these instances. The requester will receive written notification of the Managing Director's decision. These decisions are published monthly and are placed in FCC Docket 86-285. All such requests must be submitted in writing to:

Managing Director Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room 1-A625 Washington, DC 20554

#### WAIVERS, FEE DETERMINATIONS, AND DEFERRALS PROCESS

The required filing fee must be paid for the service requested using the normal process. All requests for waivers, and fee determinations are filed directly with the Managing Director in Washington, DC. If the Commission grants the waiver request or the fee determination results in a lower fee, a refund will be issued. Deferrals of fees are also filed in Washington, DC, and have a limit of up to six months with good cause. Deferrals of fees are considered when the inability to pay the required fee is due to a financial hardship (i.e., bankruptcy), and must be accompanied by supporting documentation.

#### **REFUND PROCESS**

The appropriate Bureau/Office handles routine refund requests. When a Bureau/Office determines that a refund is warranted, it is forwarded to the Office of the Managing Director, Revenue and Receivables Operations Group for processing. The Revenue and Receivables Operations Group (RROG) handles all approved refund requests. Once the refund request is approved, the refund process usually takes 7-10 business days. Once a request has been reviewed and processed by RROG, it is forwarded to the U.S. Treasury in San Francisco, California where a check is issued to the payer of the remittance. For further information on return or refund of charges, refer to 47 CFR, Part 1, Section 1.1113 of the Commission's Rules.

#### **MAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

Parties hand-delivering applications or filings may receive dated receipt copies of the application or filing from the acceptance clerk at the time of delivery. Receipts will be provided for mail-in applications or filings if an extra copy of the application or filing is provided along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Only one piece of paper per application will be stamped for receipt purposes. A "stamp and receipt" copy must be placed on top of the original package and clearly identified as a return copy.

When delivering feeable applications by hand or by courier, use the following address: Federal Communications Commission, c/o U.S. Bank – Government Lockbox # 979091, SL-MO-C2-GL, 1005 Convention Plaza, St. Louis, MO 63101 (Attention: FCC Government Lockbox). This address is for hand or courier delivery only. DO NOT use it for mailing applications. When using the address, enclose the application package in an inner envelope marked with the correct Post Office Box number. See the relevant Bureau/Office Fee Filing Guide for the correct Post Office Box number.

#### **QUESTIONS**

If you have questions regarding your application and/or fee, you may call toll free the FCC's Consumer Center at 1-888-CALLFCC (1-888-225-5322). For information on CORES call the CORES Administrator at 1-877-480-3201.

#### **PART B: SECTION 8 FEES**

### I. WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU'S DEFINITIONS OF COMMON CARRIER SERVICES

THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (FCC) REGULATES INTERSTATE AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS BY RADIO, TELEVISION, WIRELINE, WIRELESS, SATELLITE AND CABLE. THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT REQUIRES COMMON CARRIERS TO FURNISH THEIR SERVICES ON REQUEST AND AT JUST, REASONABLE AND NON-DISCRIMINATORY RATES. THE FCC IS AUTHORIZED TO PROMOTE THE PUBLIC INTEREST IN THESE CHARGES AND PRACTICES OF COMMON CARRIERS BY TITLES I THROUGH III OF THE ACT. IT DOES SO THROUGH TARIFF REVIEW AND PRESCRIPTIONS, FACILITY AUTHORIZATIONS, ACCOUNTING RULES, INVESTIGATIONS AND OTHER PROCEEDINGS. THE AGENCY ALSO ALLOCATES RADIO SPECTRUM AND ORBITAL SLOTS FOR VARIOUS TYPES OF COMMON CARRIER SERVICES.

#### COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANCE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT (CALEA)

SECTION 302 OF CALEA, PUB. L. NO. 103-414, 108 STAT. 4279 (1994), MODIFIES THE SCHEDULE OF APPLICATION FEES IN SECTION 8(G) OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934, 47 U.S.C. § 159(G): "... BY INSERTING UNDER ITEM 1 OF THE MATTER PERTAINING TO COMMON CARRIER TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL SUBITEM: (D) PROCEEDING UNDER SECTION 109(B) OF CALEA ..." SECTION 109(B) OF CALEA ALLOWS TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIERS TO PETITION THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION FOR AN ORDER DECLARING "NOT REASONABLY ACHIEVABLE" THE PETITIONING CARRIER'S OBLIGATION TO COMPLY WITH CALEA SECTION 103 (CAPABILITY REQUIREMENTS).

#### **SECTION 214 APPLICATIONS**

SECTION 214 OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT REQUIRES COMMON CARRIERS TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE THAT THE PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY REQUIRE OR WILL REQUIRE CONSTRUCTION AND/OR OPERATION OF A LINE OF COMMUNICATION, OR THE DISCONTINUANCE, REDUCTION OR IMPAIRMENT OF SERVICE.

#### TARIFF FILINGS

SECTION 201 OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT DIRECTS THE COMMISSION TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE CHARGES AND PRACTICES OF COMMON CARRIERS ARE JUST AND REASONABLE. AS PART OF THIS PROCESS, CERTAIN CARRIERS ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT TO THE COMMISSION AND MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC TARIFFS DETAILING THESE CHARGES AND PRACTICES. THESE TARIFFS CONTAIN SUCH INFORMATION AND ARE FORMATTED IN A MANNER DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSION THROUGH REGULATION AND AS SPECIFIED IN PART 61 OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES. SPECIAL PERMISSION APPLICATIONS CONTAIN REQUESTS FOR A WAIVER OF ANY PORTION OF PART 61.

#### **ACCOUNTING**

THE COMMISSION IS CHARGED WITH RECOMMENDING ANNUAL DEPRECIATION RATES APPLICABLE TO ALL CLASSES OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS PLANT OF DOMESTIC AND OVERSEAS COMMON CARRIERS. VARIOUS FINANCIAL FILINGS ARE REQUIRED OF CARRIERS SO THAT THE COMMISSION CAN MONITOR COMPLIANCE WITH ITS RULES AND ENSURE THAT THE PUBLIC PAYS JUST AND REASONABLE RATES FOR REGULATED TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES.

#### II. SECTION 8 FEE SCHEDULE AND FILING GUIDE

# Mailing Address Federal Communications Commission Wireline Competition Bureau P.O. Box 979091 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

TYPE OF APPLICATIONS	FORMS#	FEE AMOUNT	FEE CODE
<ol> <li>Domestic 214 Applications<sup>1</sup></li> <li>a. Domestic Cable Construction</li> </ol>	Written Request & FCC 159	\$1,015.00	CUT
b. Other	Written Request & FCC 159	\$1,015.00	CUT
<ol> <li>Tariff Filings         <ul> <li>a. Tariff Filing Fees<sup>2</sup></li> <li>(per transmittal or cover letter)</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	Written Request & FCC 159	\$815.00	CQK
b. Application for Special Permission F (request for waiver of any rule in Part 61 of the Commission's Rules) (per request)	Filing <sup>2</sup> Written Request & FCC 159	\$815.00	CQK
c. Waiver of Part 69 Tariff Rules <sup>2</sup> (per request)	Written Request & FCC 159	\$815.00	CQK
3. Accounting a. Review of Depreciation Update Study (single state)	Written Study & FCC 159	\$34,275.00	BKA
(i) Each Additional State	Same as 3a	\$1,130.00	CVA
b. Petition for Waiver (per petition) (waiver of Part 69 accounting rules and Part 32 accounting rules, Part 36 separation rules, Part 43 reporting requirements Part 64 allocation of costs rules Part 65 rate of return & rate base rules	Written Request & FCC 159	\$7,725.00	BEA
(ii) Part 36 Separation Rules	Corres & 159	\$ 7,725.00	BEB

**Note:** Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement (CALEA) Petitions, Payment Type Code (CLEA) has moved to Pubic Safety and Homeland Security. Please refer to the Fee Filing Guide for Pubic Safety and Homeland Security for additional information.

- <sup>1</sup> EACH SUCH REQUEST, REGARDLESS OF THE NUMBER OF COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS REQUESTED, WILL REQUIRE ONE FEE. WHERE A COMMON CARRIER MUST FILE A SECTION 214 APPLICATION AND ANOTHER APPLICATION FOR A RADIO LICENSE THAT IS ALSO CHARGEABLE UNDER SECTION 8 OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT, BOTH SUCH CHARGES WILL BE REQUIRED. A FEE IS NOT REQUIRED FOR REQUESTS FOR REDUCTION OR DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE, NOT FOR SECTION 214 APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED PURELY FOR MODIFICATION PURPOSES.
- <sup>2</sup> ISSUING CARRIERS WILL SUBMIT THE REQUIRED FEE TO THE U.S. BANK LOCKBOX LOCATION IN ST. LOUIS, MO IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTIONS 61.14(b)(1), 61.17(b), 61.20(b)(1), 61.32(b) and 61.153(b) OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES, 47 C.F.R. §§61.14(b)(1), 61.17(b)(1), 61.32(b) AND 61.153(b). FILING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THEIR SUBMISSIONS ARE DESCRIBED IN PART 61 OF THE COMMISSION'S RULES, 47 C.F.R. § 61.