



# REGULATORY FEES FACT SHEET

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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## WHAT YOU OWE – CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS FOR FY 2009

Cable television systems operating on **October 1, 2008** must pay a regulatory fee per subscriber<sup>1</sup> for all of the community units (CUIDs) in which they operate. The number of basic cable subscribers that you served on **December 31, 2008** should be used as the basis from which to calculate your fee payment. You may pay your regulatory fee for all of your basic service subscribers with a single line entry in Fee Filer without having to list your individual CUIDs.

Licensees of CARS facilities must pay a regulatory fee for each CARS facility that was operating on October 1, 2008, even if a facility's license expired after October 1, 2008. In instances where a license or authorization is transferred or assigned after October 1, 2008, the fee must be paid by the party that is the licensee or holder of the authorization on the date that the fee payment is due. When submitting payment, CARS licensees should individually list each of their CARS call signs.

**Notice of Billing:** Beginning in FY 2009, CARS licensees will not receive a pre-completed regulatory fee bill (FCC Form 159-B) in the mail for their CARS licenses. A regulatory fee bill will be created, but this bill will be available for viewing only by accessing Fee Filer. CARS licensees are also required to make regulatory fee payments for all other non-billed holdings, such as cable systems and other fee services.

| TYPE OF FEE                 | REGULATORY FEE PAYMENT | PAYMENT TYPE CODE |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Cable System Subscriber Fee | \$0.88 per subscriber  | 0971              |
| CARS License                | \$260 per license      | 0970              |

## MANDATORY USE OF FEE FILER

Beginning this year, licensees must begin the process of filing their annual regulatory fee obligation by entering the Commission's Fee Filer system with a valid FRN and password. Only Form 159-E vouchers generated from Fee Filer will be permitted to be submitted with regulatory fee payments

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<sup>1</sup> Number of Subscribers In a Community Unit = Number of single family dwellings + Number of individual households in multiple dwelling units (e.g., apartments, condominiums, mobile home parks, etc.) paying at the basic subscriber rate + Number of bulk-rate customers + Number of courtesy and free service. (NOTE: Bulk-Rate Customers = total annual bulk rate charge ÷ basic annual subscription rate for individual households).

to U.S. Bank.

There are many benefits to licensees for using the Commission's Fee Filer system: 1) expeditious submission of payment; 2) no postage or courier costs (when paid electronically through Fee Filer); 3) fewer errors caused by illegible handwriting or payments submitted without an FRN number or the appropriate data attributes (*e.g.*, payers will avoid receiving delinquency notices because of payment submission errors); 4) improved recordkeeping and payment reconciliation; 5) reduced administrative burden on both licensees and on Commission staff in processing regulatory fee payments; 6) less expensive than a wire transfer; and 7) a reduced burden of preparing, mailing, and storing paper documents.

Bear in mind that the U.S. Treasury rejects credit card transactions greater than \$99,999.99 from a single credit card in a single day, in accordance with U.S. Treasury Bulletin No. 2005-03. If you need to pay \$100,000.00 or more, then you must pay via a check, an automated clearing house (ACH) debit, or wire transfer. An ACH debit can be accomplished via Fee Filer.

If you choose to pay by check or money order, you must print the fee filer generated Form 159-E voucher and mail it along with your check/money order to U.S. Bank. If you choose to pay via wire transfer, you must fax your Form 159-E voucher to U.S. Bank one hour in advance of the wire transaction.

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