



# REGULATORY FEES FACT SHEET

Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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## WHAT YOU OWE – COMMERCIAL WIRELESS SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2023 REGULATORY FEES

On August 10, 2023, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission or FCC) released *Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2023; Review of the Commission's Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees*, Report and Order, FCC 23-66 (*FY 2023 Regulatory Fees Report and Order*). This document is available for viewing at <http://www.fcc.gov/regfees>. **Regulatory fee payments must be received by the Commission no later than 11:59 PM, Eastern Daylight Time, on September 20, 2023.**<sup>1</sup> While FY 2023 regulatory fees will not become effective until the rulemaking is published in the Federal Register, regulatees, at their own discretion, may submit payments at any time before the FY 2023 regulatory fees due date.

The Commission has discontinued the use of the Fee Filer system and incorporated this payment system into the Commission Registration System (CORES). To use CORES, you need to be registered with the FCC at <https://apps2.fcc.gov/fccUserReg/pages/login.htm>. Once your FCC username is registered and verified, you can access CORES and select the option to associate your existing FRN to that username, if you have not already done so. To make a FY 2023 regulatory fee payment, login to the following website using your username and password: <https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do>.

Commission licensees and regulatees should consult the *FY 2023 Regulatory Fees Report and Order* for specific information concerning regulatory fee payment obligations, the regulatory fee process, and regulatory fee requirements for payment. The Commission also publishes industry-specific guidance in *FY 2023 - Who Owes Fees and What Is My Fee*, and can be found on the Commission website at <http://www.fcc.gov/regfees>.

This Fact Sheet applies to licensees that are Commercial Mobile Radio Service (CMRS) providers, Broadband Radio Service (BRS) (formerly known as multipoint distribution service (MDS) and multichannel multipoint distribution service (MMDS)) providers, and local multipoint distribution service (LMDS) providers.

CMRS licensees include: specialized mobile radio services (Part 90); public coast stations (Part 80); public mobile radio, cellular, 800 MHz air-ground radiotelephone, and offshore radio services (Part 22); PCS broadband services (Part 24), and licensees under Part 27 meeting the CMRS definition in Section 20.3. The CMRS messaging services category includes all one-way (Parts 22 and 90), two-way paging, qualifying interconnected business radio services, 220-222 MHz land mobile systems (Part 90), PCS narrowband services (Part 24) (e.g., one-way and two-way paging), and all SMR systems authorized for operation with less than 10 MHz bandwidth (Part 90). All other private wireless regulatory fees that are not noted here are paid in advance for the full license term and are submitted along with the appropriate application fee.

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<sup>1</sup> The Commission has instituted a mandatory electronic payment policy, which means that licensees will not be able to make regulatory fee payments by check, money order, or cashier's check. Only credit card, ACH, and wire transfer payments will be accepted. Please make sure that your electronic fee payment is made and the transaction is complete by the due date for FY 2023 regulatory fees.

## CMRS PROVIDERS

**Who Must Pay:** CMRS cellular licensees, CMRS mobile service licensees, and CMRS messaging licensees. CMRS providers owe regulatory fees for each license held as of **October 1, 2022, even if a license expired after October 1, 2022**. In instances where a license or authorization is transferred or assigned after October 1, 2022, the fee must be paid by the party that is the licensee or holder of the authorization on the fee due date.

**Payment and Documentation Requirement:** CMRS fees are assessed on the number of telephone numbers or subscriber counts, as stated in the table below. This includes non-geographic telephone numbers. CMRS providers that filed the Numbering Resource Utilization Forecast (NRUF) report on the FCC Form 502 were provided with an opportunity to revise their subscriber counts. If these revised subscriber counts were approved by the Commission, they should appear in CORES as the CMRS count to be used for the payment of FY 2023 CMRS regulatory fees. All other CMRS providers that did not file the NRUF report should report their subscriber count or telephone number units as of **December 31, 2022** for the payment of FY 2023 regulatory fees. CMRS Messaging (Paging) licensees should use the number of telephone number units or subscriber counts as of **December 31, 2022** for the payment of FY 2023 regulatory fees.

**Subscriber Count Revisions:** In FY 2023, cell phone providers that file a *Numbering Resource Utilization Forecast* (NRUF) report will have an opportunity to **revise their subscriber count** when CORES is available for payment by sending an e-mail to the Commission at [Roland.Helvajian@fcc.gov](mailto:Roland.Helvajian@fcc.gov). **You must obtain approval from the Commission on the revised subscriber count before a payment can be made on the revised fee amount.** After you receive an approval, the Commission will update CORES to reflect the revised subscriber count and fee amount. Revised subscriber counts will be accepted through **September 15, 2023**.

Pursuant to 47 CFR § 1.1157(d), CMRS providers must retain the business records that were used to calculate their fee payment for a period of two years from the date of regulatory fee payment.

Type of Fee	Regulatory Fee Payment	Payment Type Code
CMRS Cellular Radio (Part 22) and CMRS Mobile Services (Parts 22, 24, 27, 80 and 90), including <b>non-geographic telephone numbers</b> .  Cellular Radio and Mobile Services are to use the same Payment Type Code 2311, including <b>non-geographic telephone numbers</b> .	\$0.16 per telephone number/subscriber count	2311
CMRS Messaging Services (Parts 22, 24 and 90)	\$0.08 per subscriber count	2313

## BRS (FORMERLY MDS/MMDS) AND LMDS PROVIDERS

**Who Must Pay:** BRS and LMDS providers owe regulatory fees for each license held as of **October 1, 2022, even if a license expired after October 1, 2022**. In instances where a license or authorization is transferred or assigned after October 1, 2022, 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.

**Fee Requirement:** Regulatory fees for BRS and LMDS are assessed on a per license basis as follows:

Type of License	Regulatory Fee	Payment Type Code
BRS (Formerly MDS/MMDS)	\$700	2314
LMDS	\$700	2385

**MANDATORY USE OF CORES**

All regulatory fee payors are required to use CORES for fee filing and payment via Automated Clearing House (ACH), Visa or MasterCard debit card, or credit card. Licensees and regulatees must first enter CORES with a valid username and password at: <https://apps2.fcc.gov/fccUserReg/pages/login.htm>, and follow the online prompts to review their data and submit an electronic fee payment. **The use of CORES to pay regulatory fees is mandatory, and payments in the form of checks, money orders, and cashier’s checks will not be accepted.**<sup>2</sup> To make a wire transfer payment, please enter CORES and submit your fee information, and then complete and fax your financial institution’s wire cover memo and an electronic FCC Form 159 (or equivalent) to the Commission at (202) 418-2843, or send an e-mail to [RROGWireFaxes@fcc.gov](mailto:RROGWireFaxes@fcc.gov) at least one hour before initiating the wire transfer (but on the same business day) so as not to delay crediting the account. Please include your **FRN, Voucher Number, Payer Name, and the Amount of the Wire** in the wire cover memo to assist us in posting your payment quickly, and to avoid costly delays that could result in penalties and interest for missing the payment due date. Please see the following link, <https://www.fcc.gov/licensing-databases/fees/wire-transfer>, for information on initiating a wire transfer. Please note that most wire transfers initiated after 6:00 p.m. (EDT) will be credited the next business day. Please also note that an ACH, credit card, or MasterCard or Visa debit card transaction could take several days for the payment to be transferred from a financial institution to the Commission. **Therefore, any automated notification you receive from the Commission or Pay.gov following submission of your payment is an acknowledgement of submission, and not an acknowledgement that the funds have been received by the Commission. As a precaution, fee payors should always check their bank statements to ensure that the funds have actually been transferred to the Commission by the regulatory fee payment due date.**

**LIMITATIONS ON CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS**

In accordance with *Treasury Financial Manual*, Volume I, Part 5, Chapter 7000, Section 7055.20, *Transaction Maximums*, the highest amount that can be charged on a credit card for transactions with federal agencies is \$24,999.99.<sup>3</sup> Transactions greater than \$24,999.99 will be rejected. This limit applies to single payments or bundled payments of more than one bill. Multiple transactions to a single agency in one day may be aggregated and treated as a single transaction subject to the \$24,999.99 limit. Customers who wish to pay an amount greater

<sup>2</sup> Payors should note that this change will mean that entities that have previously paid both regulatory fees and application fees at the same time by paper check will no longer be able to do so because regulatory fees payments by paper check will no longer be accepted.

<sup>3</sup> Customers who owe an amount on a bill, debt, or other obligation due to the federal government are prohibited from splitting the total amount due into multiple payments. Splitting an amount owed into several payment transactions violates the credit card network and the Bureau of Fiscal Service rules. An amount owed that exceeds the \$24,999.99 maximum, may not be split into two or more payment transactions in the same day by using one or multiple cards. Also, an amount owed that exceeds the \$24,999.99 maximum may not be split into two or more transactions over multiple days by using one or more cards. *Treasury Financial Manual*, Volume I, part 5, Chapter 7000, Section 7055.30, *Prohibition on Splitting Transactions*.

than \$24,999.99 should consider available electronic alternatives such as Visa or MasterCard debit cards, ACH debits from a bank account, and wire transfers. Each of these payment options is available after submitting regulatory fee information through CORES. Further details will be provided regarding payment methods and procedures at the time of FY 2023 regulatory fee collection in Fact Sheets, available at <http://www.fcc.gov/regfees>. The *Treasury Financial Manual*, Volume I, Part 5, Chapter 7000, *Credit and Debit Card Collection Transactions* was updated on June 23, 2022, effective October 1, 2022, and reduced the credit card limit of intra-governmental transactions (government-to-government) from \$24,999.99 to \$10,000.00.

Regulatory fee payments that exceed the U.S. Treasury limit and are rejected by Treasury, causing a payment not to meet the required payment deadline, will be subject to interest, fees, and a 25% late payment penalty.

#### **DE MINIMIS REGULATORY FEE LEVEL**

Regulatees whose total FY 2023 annual regulatory fee liability, including all categories of regulatory fees for which payment is due, is \$1,000 or less are exempt from payment of FY 2023 regulatory fees. Thus, if the sum total of all annual FY 2023 regulatory fees is \$1,000 or less, you are considered *de minimis* and do not have to pay FY 2023 regulatory fees. If you are *de minimis*, you will not need to report this exemption to the Commission. The *de minimis* threshold applies only to filers of annual regulatory fees (not regulatory fees paid through multi-year wireless filings), and it is not a permanent exemption. Rather, each regulatee will need to re-evaluate and re-calculate its regulatory fee liability each year in order to determine whether they meet the *de minimis* exemption established by the Commission's annual regulatory fee order. Regulatees are responsible for calculating their total fee obligation to determine whether they qualify for this *de minimis* exemption. The Commission reserves the right to request documentation that supports a *de minimis* exemption claim.

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