



REGULATORY FEES FACT SHEET

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

August 28, 2023

REGULATORY FEE EXEMPTIONS FOR FY 2023

General Exemptions

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.**¹ 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>.

This Fact Sheet provides information about those entities that are exempt from payment of regulatory fees. Government entities are not required to pay regulatory fees. Non-profit entities (exempt under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code) also may be exempt. The Commission requires that any entity claiming exempt status submit, or have on file with the Commission, a valid IRS Determination Letter documenting its nonprofit status or certification from a governmental authority and attesting to its exempt status. Licensees that are incorrectly identified as exempt from regulatory fees are advised to contact the Commission's Financial Operations help desk at (877) 480-3201, Option 6, or (202) 418-1995.

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.

¹ 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.

SPECIFIC SERVICE CATEGORY EXEMPTIONS

In addition to the general exemptions explained above, the following guidance applies to specific service categories. Noncommercial educational (NCE) FM station licensees and full service NCE television broadcast station licensees are exempt from paying regulatory fees, provided that these stations operate solely on an NCE basis. If these stations are exempt, then the licenses held to provide peripheral services are also exempt from regulatory fees, provided that such licenses are used solely in conjunction with the commonly owned NCE stations. Peripheral services may include auxiliary broadcast stations for: (1) AM/FM/digital (UHF/VHF) TV/LPTV services; (2) remote pickup stations; (3) FM translators or boosters; or (4) TV translators. Licenses held for Educational Broadband Service and Emergency Alert System licenses for auxiliary service facilities are both exempt.

Under the Commission's community service exemption, a broadcast facility is exempt from regulatory fees if it meets all three of the following criteria: (1) it is not licensed to, and is not commonly owned in whole or in part, by the licensee of a commercial broadcast station; (2) it does not derive income from advertising; and (3) it is dependent for support on subscriptions/contributions from the members of the community served. Finally, the fee exemption includes licensees of TV translator, TV booster, FM translator, FM booster, and LPTV stations which have obtained a fee refund because of an National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) facilities grant for their station or a fee waiver because of demonstrated compliance with the eligibility and service requirements of section 73.621 of the Commission's rules.

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