



REGULATORY FEES FACT SHEET

Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE
Washington, DC 20554

News Media Information 202-418-0500
Internet: www.fcc.gov

Released: September 1, 2026

REGULATORY FEE EXEMPTIONS FOR FY 2026

General Exemptions

On August 27, 2026, the Commission released the *FY 2026 Regulatory Fees Report and Order*.¹ This document is available for viewing at <http://www.fcc.gov/regfees>.

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 2026 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 2026 regulatory fees. Thus, if the sum total of all annual FY 2026 regulatory fees is \$1,000 or less, your fees are considered de minimis, and you do not have to pay FY 2026 regulatory fees. If your fees 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 it meets 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.

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.

¹ *Review of the Commission's Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2026*, MD Docket No. 26-94, Report and Order, FCC 26-59 (rel. Aug. 27, 2026) (*FY 2026 Regulatory Fees Report and Order*).

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.

– FCC –