

The Licensing Connection

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE U.S. COPYRIGHT OFFICE LICENSING SECTION

Licensing Returns to Regular Operations

Beginning spring 2022, staff began transitioning, with modified schedules, back to regular on-site operations after more than two years of maximizing telework in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The health and safety of the Library of Congress employees and visitors is our first priority. The Library is carefully and continuously monitoring information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, local area health departments, and our federal partners so it can respond rapidly as conditions change. The Library has also increased the cleaning of restrooms, public spaces, and elevator lobbies and installed additional hand sanitizer stations.



PHOTO BY DAVID RICE

Public information office staff helping a visitor.

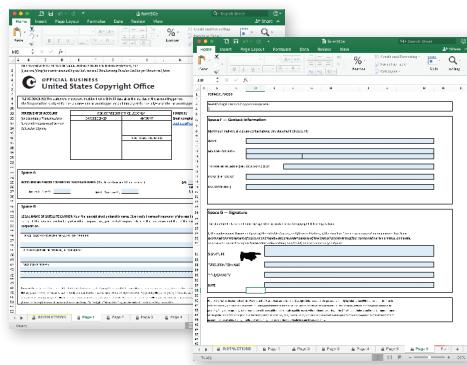
Pay.gov Releases Updated Forms for Cable, DART, and Satellite Filers as Mandate Approaches

Starting July 1, 2022, the Licensing Section will mandate the use of Pay.gov, the U.S. Treasury's web-based remittance system, for all Licensing Section payments. When the mandate goes into effect, users will be required to use the public forms available on Pay.gov; the private form will be deactivated June 30, 2022. A soft launch of the public forms on Pay.gov occurred in time for the 2021/2 cable accounting deadline. The Licensing Section is also requiring royalty and filing fee payments from satellite and DART filers to be made via Pay.gov. In addition to streamlining the payment process, the new forms allow filers to make payments using a credit card, debit card, ACH credit, or ACH debit.

The Licensing Section encouraged filers to use Pay.gov for the 2021/2 accounting period to familiarize themselves with the new forms ahead of the implementation of the mandate. An updated tutorial is also available on the Licensing Section [website](#) to assist filers with navigating the new payment process. For further assistance, contact the Licensing Section at licensing@copyright.gov or (202) 707-8150.

Electronic Satellite Filing Forms Available

The Licensing Section is pleased to announce that satellite carriers under the section 119 statutory license for secondary transmissions are now able to sign and submit their statement of account forms to the Licensing Section electronically. Satellite carriers who choose to file their statements electronically will benefit from a quicker and more efficient process. If satellite carriers would prefer to continue submitting their forms physically, electronic filing is not mandatory.



Digitization Project Updates

The Licensing Section is continuing its review of digitized cable statements of account. The Licensing Section has entered into an agreement with the Library's Digitization Services Center to scan and convert SOAs from 2019/1 onward. This development is expected to reduce the turnaround for digitizing current records. Quality review for both paper and electronic records from 2016/1 through 2018/2 has nearly concluded, while review for the newly scanned records is well underway. The Licensing Section expects the first batch of uploads to begin in August 2022.

Licensing and Legislation

Modern Television Act of 2021 (H.R. 1856) Introduced in House

The [Modern Television Act of 2021](#) would establish measures to prevent blackouts of television broadcast stations, including requiring good-faith negotiations in broadcast agreements and providing for outside arbitration of certain negotiation disputes. Additionally, the bill would repeal specified provisions, including those related to retransmission consent and compulsory copyright licenses, and would disallow federal, state, and local authorities from regulating the rates of a cable or satellite service.

Important Reminders for 2022/1

SATELLITE: The **\$725 filing fee per statement** in addition to the appropriate royalty fee is to be filed between **July 1 and July 30**, inclusive.*

CABLE: The **filing fee (\$15 for SA-1, \$20 for SA-2, or \$725 for SA-3) per statement** in addition to the appropriate royalty fee is to be filed between **July 1 and August 29**, inclusive.*

*Please remit the royalty fee and filing fee in one EFT payment.

For more information visit our [website](#).

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