REGULATORY FEES FACT SHEET

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FY 2026 REGULATORY FEES – OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

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. Regulatory fee payments must be received by the Commission no later than 11:59 PM, Eastern Daylight Time, on September 24, 2026.[2] While FY 2026 regulatory fees will not become effective until the Order is published in the Federal Register, regulatees, at their own discretion, may submit payments at any time before the FY 2026 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 2026 regulatory fee payment, log in to the following website using your username and password: https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do.

Commission licensees and regulatees should consult the *FY 2026 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 under the heading *FY 2026 – Who Owes Fees and What Is My Fee*, which can be found on the Commission website at http://www.fcc.gov/regfees.

This Fact Sheet applies to providers of international bearer circuits and submarine cable licensees. Licensees owe regulatory fees for each license held as of October 1, 2025, and payment is due even if a license expired after October 1, 2025. In instances where a license or authorization is transferred or assigned after October 1, 2025, 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.

International Bearer Circuits

Regulatory fees for International Bearer Circuits are to be paid by facilities-based common carriers that have active (used or leased) international bearer circuits as of December 31, 2025, in any terrestrial or satellite transmission facility for the provision of service to an end user or resale carrier, which includes active circuits to themselves or to their affiliates. In addition, non-common carrier terrestrial and satellite operators must pay a fee for each circuit sold or leased to any customer, including themselves or their affiliates, other than an international common carrier authorized by the Commission to provide U.S. international common carrier services. "Active circuits" for these purposes include backup and redundant

[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*).

[2] 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 2026 regulatory fees.

circuits. In addition, whether circuits are used specifically for voice or data is not relevant in determining that they are active circuits.

TYPE OF FEE	REGULATORY FEE PAYMENT	PAYMENT TYPE CODE
International Bearer Circuits: Terrestrial Common Carrier and Non-Common Carrier; Satellite Common Carrier and Non-Common Carrier. Active capacity as of December 31, 2025	$14 per active Gbps	2676

Submarine Cable Systems

Regulatory fees for submarine cable systems will be paid, per cable landing license, for all submarine cable systems operating as of December 31, 2025. Capacity for calculating fees should be based on "lit" capacity.

To calculate your submarine cable regulatory fees, sum up your submarine cable "lit" capacities by cable system (on a Gbps basis), and determine your regulatory fee amount and payment type code using the table below. Enter this fee amount and payment type code in CORES at: https://apps.fcc.gov/cores/userLogin.do. This methodology should not distinguish between submarine cable systems operating on a common carrier or non-common basis. The licensee is responsible for determining and certifying the accuracy of the amount of lit capacity in its system. The Commission will only accept a single payment for the full regulatory fee obligation for each international submarine cable license. Therefore, for submarine cable systems with multiple owners, the owners need to determine their respective portions of the fee, and submit a single, full payment of regulatory fees in CORES. Each licensee of a submarine cable system is equally responsible for the payment of the regulatory fee.[3] In the event of a non-payment or underpayment, the Commission will hold each and every licensee equally responsible for the regulatory fee obligation.

Submarine Cable Systems (lit capacity as of December 31, 2025)	Fee Ratio	FY 2026 Regulatory Fees	Payment Type Code
Less than 50 Gbps	.0625 Units	$6,685	2686
50 Gbps or greater, but less than 250 Gbps	.125 Units	$13,370	2687
250 Gbps or greater, but less than 1,500 Gbps	.25 Units	$26,745	2688
1,500 Gbps or greater, but less than 3,500 Gbps	.5 Units	$53,490	2689
3,500 Gbps or greater, but less than 6,500 Gbps	1.0 Unit	$106,975	2690
6,500 Gbps or greater	2.0 Units	$213,955	2609

[3] *See Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2008*, Second Report and Order, 24 FCC Rcd 4208, 4212, 4215, paras. 6, 17 (2009) (*Submarine Cable Fee Order*).

MANDATORY USE OF THE COMMISSION REGISTRATION SYSTEM (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**.[4] 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.**

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 miminis 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.

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.[5] Transactions greater than $24,999.99 will be rejected. This limit applies

[4] 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.

[5] 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

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 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 2026 regulatory fee collection in Fact Sheets, available at http://www.fcc.gov/regfees.

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.

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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*.