

# MUSIC FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES



Licensing Enquiries 1300 852 388 [licence@apra.com.au](mailto:licence@apra.com.au) [www.apraamcos.com.au](http://www.apraamcos.com.au)

APPLY NOW

**This licence covers the use of music in Local, Shire and City Councils.**

## Why do I need a licence?

If you use copyright music in your council you need permission (a licence) from the authors of that music. By 'use' we mean anything from playing the radio, turning on a TV in the reception area, copying music from one device to another, streaming music through an iPad, piping music through your phone system, using a background music supplier, organising a concert and more. Securing an APRA AMCOS licence will meet your legal obligations under the Copyright Act.

## Who is APRA AMCOS?

APRA AMCOS (which stands for the Australasian Performing Right Association and the Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society) is a non-profit organisation which licenses rights in music on behalf of more than 90,000 members linked with 170 affiliated similar organisations worldwide. We pay your annual licence fees directly back to the songwriters, composers and publishers who own the music you're using. Legal alternatives to securing an APRA AMCOS licence are on page 2.

You can get independent information at [www.copyright.org.au](http://www.copyright.org.au).

We have a range of licences available for your council to cover the different ways in which you use music. We can help you consolidate these into a single agreement.

- **Halls and Function Centres**
- **Events**
- **General Business Background Music**
- **Music in the Workplace (includes music on hold and copying music)**
- **Fitness Centres**
- **Dance Schools**
- **Featured Recorded Music**
- **Film Festivals**

## How much does it cost per year?


Costs vary depending on the type of licence. Your council may find it easier if we consolidate the different licences into a single agreement. We can organise that. Call our Customer Support Team on 1300 852 388. Rates are not negotiable.


## Will the rates change?

Apart from yearly CPI reviews, APRA AMCOS will not increase or change licence fees without first consulting the industry.


## Music works for you

Music can be a valuable asset whether in a workplace, gym, public area or at an event. Research shows music can help attract people and keeps them motivated, interested and helps them to enjoy what they're doing.

 **80%** of gym users agree music improves motivation when they exercise

 **75%** of people say music significantly improves the atmosphere at a sporting event

 **87%** of people say playing music in the workplace improves morale

 **74%** of employees agree they enjoy going to work when good music is played

From [musicworksforyou.com](http://musicworksforyou.com)



## What music can I use if I have an APRA AMCOS licence?

We've done the hard work for you so our licence allows you to use **virtually any commercially released** music from anywhere around the world.

## How long does the licence last?

Licences are ongoing and renew each year. If you no longer need our licence (e.g. if you cease to use music), you can terminate with one month's notice to us.

## Need some help?

If you need advice on where to find music or what works best for your Local, Shire or City Council, we'd be happy to help. Call our Customer Support Team on 1300 852 388 or speak to your local APRA AMCOS representative.

## What does **APRA AMCOS** do with my fees?

We care about ensuring the licence fees you pay are distributed in the most economical and accurate way possible. We deduct our expenses from the revenue we receive and then distribute your fees to the songwriters, composers and music publishers whose works we have licensed to you.

This means for every dollar we collect, about 85 cents is returned to music creators. At 15 per cent, our operational costs compare very favourably to organisations providing the same service overseas.

- Fees from background music, music on hold and copying go into royalty pools and are distributed according to data on music use from **radio stations**, **ARIA** (Australian Recording Industry Association) chart placings and **music video channels**.
- If you use a **background music supplier**, we have arrangements with many to pay your fees directly to the **music they report to us**.
- For films, we get **cue sheets** (listing the music used in a film) for films released in Australia as well as box office shares from the Motion Picture Distributors Association of Australia (MPDAA). The licence fees we receive are allocated each quarter to films according to their box office share. Each film's share is then distributed to the music used in the film according to the duration and use of each track (i.e. as theme, background or featured music).
- Fees from fitness classes are paid 50 per cent to the **makers of aerobic and fitness CDs** based on survey advice from ACNielsen, and 50 per cent to our **radio royalty pools**.
- Fees from live music are distributed according to **live performance returns** submitted by our members and music copyright societies.

## Other licences

If you are using sound recordings controlled by PPCA (Phonographic Performance Company of Australia) contact PPCA at [ppca.mail@ppca.com.au](mailto:ppca.mail@ppca.com.au) (02) 8569 1111.



## Need more information?

Contact our Customer Service Team on 1300 852 388 or email [licence@apra.com.au](mailto:licence@apra.com.au)

## Do I have to go through **APRA AMCOS** to play music?

There are a couple of ways to get permission to play music.

**APRA AMCOS Licence.** Our licence is a one-stop shop for the world's repertoire of music and we believe it provides the easiest and most cost-effective way to access public performance rights to music.

**Direct Licensing.** Our members may license their music directly to music users, including for live performances and you are free to discuss this with them. You can find more details on our website under [Dealing directly with copyright owners](#).

**Royalty-Free Music.** Some music suppliers offer recordings of music they say is outside our repertoire and so does not need our licence. If you wish to use a "Royalty-Free" music product, please contact us and we will check whether any extra licences are needed.

## When do I pay?

You pay when you first take out the licence, then just once a year. If your APRA AMCOS licence fee is more than \$500, we will put you on quarterly payments (with no interest). Extended payment terms are available. To find our more contact our Customer Support Team on 1300 852 388.

## Comments and complaints

We care about the service we give you and we welcome your feedback. If you'd like to comment on our service, email [licence@apra.com.au](mailto:licence@apra.com.au).

Read about our [formal complaints procedure here](#).

## Disputes

If you do not agree with how we apply this licence to your business, with our fees, or with any of our services, you can use our convenient dispute resolution system. Email [disputes@apra.com.au](mailto:disputes@apra.com.au) or call 02 9935 7900.

Read about our [dispute resolution system here](#).



**APRA AMCOS (the Australasian Performing Right Association and the Australasian Mechanical Copyright Owners Society) is a rights management organisation which licenses performing, communication and reproduction rights in music on behalf of more than 90,000 members and 142,000 licensees with 170 affiliated organisations worldwide.**

*This fact sheet is a guide only. Refer to the licence for full terms and conditions.*