



PPL STUDENT RADIO LICENCE

1. What is PPL and what does it do?

PPL is the UK's music licensing company for tens of thousands of performers and recording rightsholders, PPL license radio stations, TV channels and some online services to include recorded music in their broadcasts.

After deduction of our operating costs, the music licensing royalties we collect are distributed to the performers and recording rightsholders we represent, based on the use of their music.

You can find out more about PPL on the [About Us](#) page of our website.

2. Why do I need a PPL Student Radio Licence?

You require a student radio licence with PPL if your student radio station uses recorded music in its broadcasts within a school or university by Ofcom-licensed low-powered AM/FM, a hardwired speaker system or secure intranet.

PPL administers the rights for licensing radio services on behalf of virtually all recording rightsholders (e.g. record labels) in the UK. As such, PPL is able to grant 'blanket' licences to student radio services for their use of those rightsholders' sound recordings. This streamlines the process for our licensees, alleviating what would be an administrative burden if the station was required to contact each recording rightsholder individually.

3. What rights will the PPL Student Radio Licence grant my student radio service?

PPL's Student Radio Licence covers the use of sound recordings by student radio services broadcasting in the UK via an Ofcom-licensed long-term Restricted Service Licence ("RSL") on low-powered AM/FM, a hard-wired broadcast, or an intranet transmission within the school/university premises.

Under the Student Radio Licence, and following payment of the relevant licence fees, the service will be granted the right to include sound recordings in:

- 1) broadcasts on low powered AM or FM transmissions licensed under an Ofcom long-term RSL; and
- 2) a service delivered via hard-wired systems around the school/university premises; and
- 3) a service delivered via the school/university's intranet, provided that it is only accessible to students or pupils within the school/university premises and cannot be accessed by anyone outside the premises; and
- 4) a database (and back-up database) for the purpose of providing the radio broadcasts described in 1) 2) and 3) above.

For the avoidance of doubt, PPL's Student Radio Licence does not grant any rights in respect of the public performance of sound recordings (e.g. playing music at a school summer fete).

If a student radio service wishes to include sound recordings in an intranet radio broadcast that is accessible outside the school/university premises, or via the internet, then it will need to obtain a separate PPL Linear Webcast Licence, further details of which can be found on [PPL's website](#).



Any student radio service broadcasting on AM/FM for a period of 28 days or less via an Ofcom Short-term RSL will require PPL's Short Term RSL Licence, further details of which can also be found on [PPL's website](#).

If a student premises wishes to broadcast music for public performance (e.g. Play music over speakers, live music, discos etc), they may require a licence for this via our joint venture with PRS for Music, PPL PRS, who issue TheMusicLicence. More information on public performance licensing can be found on [PPL PRS's website](#).

4. How much does PPL's Student Radio Licence cost?

PPL offers two different Student Radio Licences. The first allows qualifying services to broadcast during standard academic terms between 1 September in one year and 30 June in the next. The second allows qualifying services to broadcast all year long.

For those stations also requiring the right to dub (i.e. copy) sound recordings onto a database (and back-up database) for use in the broadcast, an additional fee will be required. The dubbing fees allow for up to 10,000 music tracks to be retained on a database at any one time. If more than 10,000 music tracks are to be retained on the database or back-up database the qualifying service must agree an additional fee with PPL before this limit is exceeded.

The following fees are payable (+VAT) for the different categories of licence for the 2023/2024 licence period:

| LICENCE | BROADCAST FEES | DUBBING FEES | TOTAL |
|--|----------------|--------------|-------|
| AM / FM (Academic Year) | £505 | £72 | £577 |
| AM / FM (All Year Round) | £662 | £72 | £734 |
| Hard Wire / Intranet (Academic Year) | £170 | £72 | £242 |
| Hard Wire / Intranet (All Year Round) | £247 | £72 | £319 |

Music Usage Reporting

PPL will not require regular reporting on the music that is used but will have the option to request reporting on music use as and when is deemed appropriate.

Contact us

For licensing enquiries relating to student radio broadcasts, contact our Licensing team at radiobroadcasting@ppluk.com
