



PPL STUDENT RADIO LICENCE

Why do I need a PPL Student Radio Licence?

If a student radio service broadcasts sound recordings, whether full tracks or short clips, permission from recording rightsholders is required.

Given the sheer number of record companies in the UK alone, it would be an enormous administrative burden if the radio service had to approach each record company for a licence every time it wanted to use a sound recording.

PPL therefore administers the rights for licensing radio services on behalf of virtually all recording rightsholders in the UK. As such, PPL is able to grant 'blanket' licences to student radio services for their use of sound recordings.

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:

- 1) include sound recordings in broadcasts on low powered AM or FM transmissions licensed under an Ofcom long-term RSL; and
- 2) include sound recordings in a service delivered via hard-wired systems around the school/university premises; and
- 3) include sound recordings in 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) copy sound recordings onto a database (and back-up database) for use in 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 or the inclusion of Sound Recordings in an internet radio service that is accessible outside the school/university premises.

If a student radio service wishes to include sound recordings in an internet radio broadcast that is accessible outside the school/university premises then it will need to obtain a separate [PPL Linear Webcast Licence](#).



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. 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 2024/2025 licence period:

LICENCE	BROADCAST FEES	DUBBING FEES	TOTAL
AM / FM (Academic Year)	£520	£74	£594
AM / FM (All Year Round)	£681	£74	£755
Hard Wire / Intranet (Academic Year)	£175	£74	£249
Hard Wire / Intranet (All Year Round)	£254	£74	£328

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 Broadcast Licensing team: radiobroadcasting@ppluk.com
