

BELIZE:

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS (LICENSING CLASSIFICATION,
AUTHORISATION AND FEE STRUCTURE (AMENDMENT)
REGULATIONS, 2022**

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

1. Citation.
2. Amendment of regulation 3.
3. Amendment of regulation 4.
4. Amendment of regulation 5.
5. Amendment of regulation 6.
6. Amendment of regulation 7.
7. Amendment of regulation 8.
8. Repeal and replacement of Schedule.
9. Commencement.

BELIZE:

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

No. 162 of 2022

REGULATIONS made by the Public Utilities Commission, with the approval of the Minister, in exercise of the powers conferred upon the Public Utilities Commission by section 56 of the Belize Telecommunications Act, Chapter 229 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020, and all other powers thereunto it enabling.

(Gazetted 10th December, 2022).

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

Citation.

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS (LICENSING
CLASSIFICATION, AUTHORISATION AND FEE
STRUCTURE (AMENDMENT)
REGULATIONS, 2022,**

and shall be read and construed as one with the Telecommunications (Licensing Classification, Authorisation and Fee Structure) Regulations, 2002, which as amended are hereinafter referred to as the principal Regulations.

S.I. 110 of 2002.

2. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 3(1) by deleting the following terms and their corresponding definitions—

Amendment of regulation 3.

(a) “carrier”; and

(b) “Public Switched Telephone Network or PSTN”.

3. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 4 by—

Amendment of regulation 4.

(a) repealing sub-regulation (2) and replacing it with the following–

“(2) An Individual License shall be specific to an individual operator and shall be required to provide any or all of the services prescribed in Schedule I.”;

Schedule I.

(b) repealing sub-regulation (3) and replacing it with the following–

“(3) A Class Licence shall be–

(i) issued by the PUC within the framework of general authorisations made by the PUC;

(ii) issued where Individual Licenses are not justified and there may be a need to place certain conditions on the provisions of the service; and

(iii) required to provide any or all of the services prescribed in Schedule II.”;

Schedule II.

(c) repealing sub-regulation (6);

(d) repealing sub-regulation (7) and replacing it with the following–

“(7) Frequency Authorisation from the PUC shall be required for any service that requires the use of specified frequencies.”;

(e) inserting the following new sub-regulation immediately after sub-regulation (8)–

“(9) An application for a frequency authorisation shall be made to the PUC.”.

4. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 5 by repealing sub-regulation (2) and replacing it with the following–
- Amendment of regulation 5.
- “(2) An application for a licence under this regulation shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee prescribed in Schedule III.”.
- Schedule III.
5. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 6 by repealing sub-regulation (2) and replacing it with the following–
- Amendment of regulation 6.
- “(2) An application for a licence under this regulation shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee prescribed in Schedule IV.”.
- Schedule IV.
6. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 7 by repealing sub-regulation (2) and replacing it with the following–
- Amendment of regulation 7.
- “(2) An application for a licence under this regulation shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee prescribed in Schedule V.”.
- Schedule V.
7. The principal Regulations are amended in regulation 8 by–
- Amendment of regulation 8.
- (a) repealing sub-regulation (1) and replacing it with the following–
- “(1) A person who applies for an Individual Licence, a Class Licence or a Frequency Authorisation shall be required to pay the fees prescribed in Schedules III, IV and V as follows–
- Schedules III, IV and V.
- (a) on filing of application, the Application Fee;

- (b) on the grant, modification, renewal or transfer of the Licence or Frequency, the Grant, Modification, Renewal or Transfer Fee, as the case may be;
 - (c) where such fee is prescribed as a percentage of gross revenue, at the end of the licensee's fiscal year, the Annual Fee;
 - (d) where such fee is fixed, the Annual Fee as follows–
 - (i) at the end of the calendar year on a pro-rated basis for the calendar years in which it was granted;
 - (ii) thereafter at the end of each calendar year;
 - (e) where such licence is issued on a temporary basis, the fee shall be pro-rated for the term of the temporary licence and payable in full upon the grant of the temporary licence.”;
- (b) repealing sub-regulation (2) and replacing it with the following–
 - “(2) Annual Fees for the Landing Station Operator licence classification are payable in addition to Annual Fees required for any other services a licensee is authorised to provide.”;
- (c) inserting, immediately after sub-regulation (2) the following–

“(3) Where a person applies for the grant, modification, renewal or transfer of a Licence or Frequency, the applicable fees prescribed in Schedules III, IV and V, as the case may be, for each category of licence being applied for, are payable.

Schedules III,
IV and V.

(4) The miscellaneous fees prescribed in Schedule VI are payable for the telecommunications prescribed in that Schedule.”.

Schedule VI.

8. The principal Regulations are amended by repealing the Schedule and replacing it with the following–

Repeal and
replacement of
Schedule.

“SCHEDULE I

[regulation 4 (2)]

Individual Licence Classification

1) Fixed Public Telephony (wireless or wireline) – authorises the holder to build, own and operate a network to provide a service to the public that allows the user the ability to transmit signals over a distance for the purpose of communications where the end points are fixed.

2) Public Mobile Cellular – authorises the holder to build, own and operate a network to provide a wireless service to the public that allows the user the ability to transmit signals over a distance for the purpose of communications where the end points are not fixed.

3) Public Radio Paging – authorises the holder to build, own and operate a network to provide a wireless service to the public that allows the user the ability to transmit messages only over a distance for the purpose of communications where the end points are or are not fixed.

4) Internet Networks – authorises the holder to build, own and operate a network to provide access for the provision of public Internet access services. The Licencee can have access to the exclusive or non-exclusive use of a specified assigned radio frequency or radio frequency band.

SCHEDULE II

[regulation 4 (3)]

Class Licence Classification

1 Internet Service Provider – authorises the holder to build, own and operate a network to provide wireless access for the provision of public Internet access services. The Licensee2 can have access to the non-exclusive use of a specified radio frequency or radio frequency band.

2 Carrier Services Provider – authorises the holder to build, own and operate a network that is offered for hire to other licence holders, or to other authorised persons as may be determined by the PUC, whether in whole or in part.

3 Value Added Services Provider – authorises the holder to provide value-added services as defined in the Act and these Regulations.

4 Reseller – authorizes the holder to–

- (i) either build, own and operate an Internet network to resell services provided by another licensee on a wholesale basis; or
- (ii) obtain such other telecommunication services on a wholesale or discounted basis, and as approved for reselling by the PUC from time to time, and resell those services or components of such services to its own customers.

5 (1) Landing Station Operator – authorises the holder to build, own and operate a facility or facilities to enable the holder, and other licensees on non-discriminatory terms, to connect to–

- (a) any other communications network outside of Belize; and
- (b) any earth-orbiting apparatus.

(2) The corresponding Annual Fee prescribed in Schedule IV is for every two locations or methods of landing, or for both, and is payable on application for the first of any two locations or methods of landing to be used.

6 Domestic Private Network – means a network based on leased lines or other facilities which are used to provide telecommunication services within an organization or within a closed user group.

SCHEDULE III

[regulations 5 (2), 8 (1) (3)]

Individual Licence

Classification	Licence Fees - \$					
	Application	Grant	Modification	Renewal	Transfer	Annual
Fixed Public Telephony (wireline or wireless)	5,000	20,000	5,000	20,000	20,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues
Public Mobile Cellular	10,000	50,000	10,000	50,000	50,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues
Public Radio Paging	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	1.5% of Gross Revenues
Internet Networks	5,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues

SCHEDULE IV

[regulations 6 (2), 8 (1) (3)]

Class Licence

Classification	Licence Fees - \$					
	Application	Grant	Modification	Renewal	Transfer	Annual
Internet Service Provider	5,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues
Carrier Service Provider	5,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues
Value Added Service Provider	2,500	5,000	2,500	5,000	5,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues
Reseller	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues
Landing Station Operator Cables, Radio, Satellite	5,000	15,000	5,000	15,000	15,000	25,000
Domestic Private Network I excluding 2 meter radio	5,000	15,000	5,000	15,000	15,000	30,000
Domestic Private Network II excluding 2 meter radio	2,500	5,000	2,500	5,000	5,000	7,500

SCHEDULE V

[regulations 7 (2), 8(1) (3)]

Fee Structure
Frequency Authorisation

	Fees-\$					
Classification	Application	Grant	Modification	Renewal	Transfer	Annual
Mobile Cellular*	1,000	4,000	1,000	4,000	4,000	
<1,000 MHz						10,000/MHz
1,000 – 3,000 MHz						7,500/MHz
>3,000 MHz but ≤ 3 MHz						5,000/MHz
Paging	1,000	1,500	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,000 per channel
						(25 kHz/chan)
Broadcast Systems						
Broadcast AM Radio Station District	500					250/frequency
Broadcast AM Radio Station National	500					1,000/frequency
Broadcast FM Radio Station District	500					500/frequency
Broadcast FM Station National	500					2,000/frequency
Broadcast Television Station District	500					1,000/channel
Broadcast Television Station National	500					4,000/channel

Television STL Microwave (6MHz Link)	500					500/link
Radio STL Microwave (15KHz Link)	500					50/link
Point-to-Point Link*						
Microwave Backhaul	1,000					65/MHz
Point-to Multipoint*						
(Fixed Wireless Access excluding Mobile Spectrum Bands)						
Exclusive	2,500					1,000/MHZ
Non-Exclusive	500					100/MHZ
Trunking	50					150 per channel pair
						(25 KHz/chan)

***Fees are applicable to entire range or ranges of assigned frequencies.**

SCHEDULE VI

[regulation 8 (4)]

Miscellaneous

Classification	Fees - \$					
	Application	Grant	Modification	Renewal	Transfer	Annual
Registration except RPUS devices**	100					100
Registration RPUS – per Access Point	50					25
Import Permit & other permits	25					
Type Approval	1,000					
Copy of Register	2/page					
Maritime Mobile						
(i) Fixed Station	100					100
(ii) Mobile Station (handheld)	50					50
(iii) Ship call sign registration	100					100
(iv) INMARSAT/Ship Commissioning/maritime identification	1,000					1,000
VSAT (per Antenna) >55dBW (C Band, Ku Band)						
Residential Use	150					150
Commercial Use	300					300

Land Mobile (2 Meter)					
Private and Commercial					
(a) Simplex					
(i) 2 frequency	150				150
(ii) Fixed	100				100
(iii) Mobile hand held	50				50
(b) Repeater					
(i) Private Operation	200				200
(ii) Commercial Operation	2,000				2,000
Aeronautical Service					
(i) Fixed Station	100				100
(ii) Mobile Station (handheld)	50				50
(iii) Aircraft Station	200				200
Amateur Service					
Local/CTU Members					
(i) New Licence	20				20
(ii) Licence Renewal	15				15
Reciprocity					
(i) New Licence	40				40
(ii) Licence Renewal	30				30
(iii) Temporary Licence (<6 months)	20				20

Citizen Band Radio						
Fixed Station	20					20
Mobile Station	20					20
Satellite TV for non-commercial use						
(i) Complete system receive only	300					300
(ii) Additional Receiver	100					100
(iii) Transmit/Receive Terminal	600					600
Earth Station in Motion (ESIM) Aeronautical & Marine						
(i) Private Aircraft and Private Vessel						
Single aircraft or vessel	200					400
(ii) Commercial airlines and shipping companies						
Fleet less than or equal to 5 aircrafts or vessels	200					1,000
Fleet size greater than 5 and less than or equal to 16 aircrafts or vessels.	200					6,000
Fleet size greater than 16 and less than or equal to 50 aircrafts or vessels.	200					17,000
Fleet size greater than 50 aircrafts or vessels.	200					50,000

****Fee to be paid where the PUC requires registration of any activity of development of equipment, except for RPUS devices.****

9. These Regulations shall come into force on the 5th of December, 2022.

MADE by the Public Utilities Commission this 9th day of December, 2022.



(MR. DEAN MOLINA)

Chairman

Public Utilities Commission

APPROVED by the Minister this 9th day of December, 2022.



(HON. MICHEL CHEBAT)

Minister of Public Utilities, Energy, Logistics and E-Governance

(Minister responsible for public utilities)