

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

License Exempt Radios

Q. Are any two-way (walkie-talkie) radios authorized for unlicensed use in Belize?

A. Yes. Under General Authorization by the PUC, Family Radio Service (FRS)/General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) radios are the class of radios that are license exempt in Belize.

Q. Can I use as many as I want??

A. Yes.

Q. Can I import for myself or do I need an authorized seller?

A. You can order FRS/GMRS radios and import them to Belize. You will need an import permit from the PUC to provide to the Customs officials to allow the radios entry to the country. A fee is required for the import permit. Carefully ensure that the radios being purchased are the FRS/GMRS radios. These radios are available for purchase over the counter at select stores in the country.

Q. What protection do I have from interference?

A. No protection is given to the use of these FRS/GMRS radios. Should the use of these radios be found to be causing interference to a licensed operator, such use must be terminated immediately.

Q. What radios are not license exempt?

A. All brand and models of two way that are not FRS/GMRS radios require a license from the PUC. The frequency use description will clearly identify if the radios are of the type FRS/GMRS. FRS/GMRS radios operate on select frequencies in the UHF Band. If unsure, please have the PUC verify.

Q. I want a quality two-way communication radio network. What is the difference between the license exempt class and the license class of operation?

A. The FRS/GMRS radios have shared frequencies and are limited to low transmit power and have very limited range and do not require a license. A license class radio is programmable, has higher transmit power, is assigned frequencies (single or duplex) based on requirements, is protected from interference, pays an annual license fee per radio as per the Telecom Regulations S.I. 110 No 16 of 2002.

Compliance

To obtain permits and establish the required license for the specific equipment in use/service, please contact the Public Utilities Commission website – www.puc.bz or telephone number +501.223.4938; or visit the PUC’s office at #4 Princess Margaret Drive, 2nd Floor Marina Towers, Belize City
