

**BELIZE:**

TELECOMMUNICATIONS (LICENSING CLASSIFICATION,  
AUTHORISATION AND FEE STRUCTURE) AMENDMENT  
REGULATIONS 2021

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT

S.I. No. **xxxxx** of 2021

*REGULATIONS made by the Public Utilities Commission in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by the Belize Telecommunications Act, as amended, Chapter 229 of the Laws of Belize, and all other powers thereunto it enabling and with the approval of the Minister.*

(Gazetted **xx xxxxxx**, 2021)

**Short title.**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the:

TELECOMMUNICATIONS (LICENSING CLASSIFICATION,  
AUTHORISATION AND FEE STRUCTURE) AMENDMENT  
REGULATIONS 2021

**Amendment**

2. The Telecommunications (Licensing Classification, Authorisation and Fee Structure), Regulations 2002, hereinafter referred to as the Principal Regulations, are hereby amended in accordance with these Regulations as of the effective date herein.

**Commencement**

3. These Regulations shall come into force on the **xxxx of xxxxx 2021**.

4. Sub-section 3(1) of the Principal Regulation is amended by deleting therefrom the definitions for “Carrier” and “Public Switched Telephone Network or PSTN”

5. Section 4 of the Principal Regulation is amended by deleting sub-section (4)(2) and substituting therefor the following—

“(2) An Individual Licence shall be specific to an individual operator and shall be required to provide any or all of the services listed in Schedule 1 of these Regulations”

6. Section 4 of the Principal Regulation is further amended by deleting sub-section (4)(3) and substituting therefor the following—

“(3) A Class Licence shall be issued where Individual Licences are not justified but there may still be a need to place certain conditions on the provision of the service. Class Licences shall be issued by the PUC within the framework of general authorisations made by the PUC. Class Licences shall be required to provide any or all of the services listed in Schedule 2 of these Regulations.”

7. Section 4 of the Principal Regulation is further amended by deleting sub-section (4)(7) and substituting therefor the following—

“(7) Frequency Authorisation from the PUC shall be required for any service that requires the use of specified frequencies. An application for such frequency authorisation shall be made to the PUC.”

8. Section 5 of the Principal Regulation is amended by deleting sub-section (5)(2) and substituting therefor the following—

“(2) An application for a licence under this section shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee as contained in Schedule 3 to these Regulations.”

9. Section 6 of the Principal Regulation is amended by deleting sub-section (6)(2) and substituting therefor the following—

“(2) An application for a licence under this section shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee as contained in Schedule 4 to these Regulations.”

10. Section 7 of the Principal Regulation is amended by deleting sub-section (7)(2) and substituting therefor the following—

“(2) An application for a licence under this section shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee as contained in Schedule 5 to these Regulations.”

11. Section 8 of the Principal Regulation is amended by deleting all subparagraphs and lines from sub-section (8)(1) and substituting the following—

“(a) on filing of an application, the Application Fee;

(b) on the grant, modification, renewal or transfer of the Licence or Frequency, the Grant, Modification, Renewal or Transfer Fee; and

(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 year in which it is granted;

(ii) thereafter at end of each calendar year.”

12. Section 8 of the Principal Regulation is further amended by deleting subsection (8)(2) and substituting therefor the following—

“(2) Annual Fees for the Landing Station Operator licence classification shall be payable in addition to Annual Fees required for any other services a licensee is authorised to provide.”

13. Section 8 of the Principal Regulation is further amended by inserting next after subsection 2 the following sub-sections—

“(3) Where a person applies for the grant, modification, renewal or transfer of a Licence or Frequency, the applicable fees contained in the Schedules for each category of Licence or being applied for shall be payable.

(4) Miscellaneous fees apply for other telecommunications related matters for which fees are payable. Payments shall be in accordance to Schedule 6.

14. The schedules of the Principal Regulation are amended by deleting them and substituting therefor the following—

## Schedule 1

### Individual Licence Classifications

- 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 2

### Class Licence Classifications

- 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 Licensee 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** – authorises the holder to build, own and operate a network to resell services provided by another licensee on a wholesale basis.
- 5) **Mobile Virtual Network Operator (MVNO)** – authorises the holder to resell or otherwise provide mobile subscription and call services with no allocation of radio frequency spectrum.
- 6) **Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) Provider** – authorises the holder to provide Internet Protocol (IP) telephony services using E.164 numbers for assignment to each subscriber, allowing subscribers to make and receive voice, data and/or video calls using the same telephone number from any location where broadband Internet access is available.
- 7) **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.
- 8) **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 as a complement or a substitute to the public network.

**Schedule 3**  
**Fee Structure**  
**Individual Licence**

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

**Schedule 4**  
**Fee Structure**  
**Class Licence**

Classification	Licence Fees - \$					
	Application	Grant	Modification	Renewal	Transfer	Annual
<b>Internet Service Provider</b>	5,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues
<b>Carrier Service Provider</b>	5,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues
<b>Value Added Service Provider</b>	2,500	5,000	2,500	5,000	5,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues
<b>Reseller</b>	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues
<b>Mobile Virtual Network Operator (MVNO)</b>	5,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues
<b>Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) Service Provider</b>	5,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	1.5% of Gross Revenues
<b>Landing Station Operator</b> Cables, Radio, Satellite	5,000	15,000	5,000	15,000	15,000	50,000.00

**Schedule 5**  
**Fee Structure**  
**Frequency Authorisation**

Classification	Fees - \$					
	Application	Grant	Modification	Renewal	Transfer	Annual
<b>Mobile Cellular *</b>	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						5,000/MHz
<b>Paging</b>	1,000	1,500	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,000 per channel
						(25 KHz/chan)
<b>Broadcast Systems</b>						
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 Radio 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
<b>Point-to-Point Links *</b>						
(Microwave Backhaul) – See Note 1	1,000					150/MHz
<b>Point-to-Multipoint *</b>						
(Fixed Wireless Access)						
Exclusive	2,500					1,000/MHZ
Non-Exclusive	500					100/MHZ
<b>Trunking</b>	50					150 per channel pair
						(25 KHz/chan)

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



## **Note 1 to Point-to-Point Links (Microwave Backhauls)**

### **Discounting Scheme- Frequency Re-use for Frequency Division Duplex (FDD) Point-to-Point (P2P) Radio Frequency (RF) microwave links:**

Per Licencee:

- I. The Annual Fee (AF) shall be applied to the first assignment of a specified RF frequency pair to a FDD P2P frequency authorization;*
- II. The Discounting factor for first frequency re-use,  $DF_1$ , shall be applied, as a percentage of the AF for the second assignment of an identical assigned RF frequency pair, inclusive of radio-frequency separation (XS) and Tx/Rx duplex spacing (DS), to a FDD P2P frequency authorization.  $DF_1$  shall have the value of 75%;*
- III. The Discounting factor for the second and other frequency reuses,  $DF_{2+}$ , shall be applied, as a percentage of the AF, for the third and subsequent assignments of identical assigned RF frequency pair, inclusive of radio-frequency separation (XS) and Tx/Rx duplex spacing (DS), to a FDD P2P frequency authorization.  $DF_{2+}$  shall have the value of 50%;*

**Schedule 6  
Fee Structure  
Miscellaneous**

Classification	Fees - \$					
	Application	Initial	Modification	Renewal	Transfer	Annual
<b>Registration**</b>	100					100
<b>Import Permit &amp; other permits</b>	25					
<b>Type Approval</b>	1,000					
<b>Copy of Register</b>	2/page					
<b>Maritime Mobile</b>						
(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
<b>VSAT (per Antenna) &lt;55dBW</b> (C Band, Ku Band)						
Residential Use	150					150
Commercial Use	300					300
<b>Land Mobile (2 Meter)</b>						
<b>Private and Commercial</b>						
<b>(a) Simplex</b>						
(i) 2 frequency	150					150
(ii) Fixed	100					100
(iii) Mobile hand held	50					50
<b>(b) Repeater</b>						
(i) Private Operation	200					200
(ii) Commercial Operation	2,000					2,000

**\*\*Fee to be paid where the PUC requires registration of any activity or deployment of equipment**

Classification	Fees - \$					
	Application	Initial	Modification	Renewal	Transfer	Annual
<b>Aeronautical Service</b>						
(i) Fixed Station	100					100
(ii) Mobile Station (handheld)	50					50
(iii) Aircraft Station	200					200
<b>Amateur Service</b>						
<b>Local/CTU Members</b>						
(i) New Licence	20					20
(ii) Licence Renewal	15					15
<b>Reciprocity</b>						
(i) New Licence	40					40
(ii) Licence renewal	30					30
(iii) Temporary Licence (< 6 months)	20					20
<b>Citizen Band Radio</b>						
Fixed Station	20					20
Mobile Station	20					20
<b>Satellite TV For non-commercial use</b>						
(i) Complete system r -eceive only	300					300
(ii) Additional Receiver	100					100
(iii) Transmit/Receive Terminal	600					600
<b>Earth Station in Motion (ESIM)</b> <i>Aeronautical &amp; Marine</i>						
<b>(i) Private Aircraft and Private Vessel</b>						
Single aircraft or vessel	200					400
<b>(ii) Commercial airlines and shipping companies</b>						
Fleet less than or equal to 5 aircrafts or vessels	200					1000
Fleet size greater than 5 and less than or equal to 16 aircrafts or vessels	200					6000
Fleet size greater than 16 and less than or equal to 50 aircrafts or vessels	200					17000
Fleet size greater than 50 aircrafts or vessels	200					50000

**Effective date.**

15. These Regulations shall come into effect on the date of its making.

**MADE** by the Public Utilities Commission this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

**(MR DEAN MOLINA)**  
*Chairman*  
*Public Utilities Commission*

**APPROVED** by the Minister of Public Utilities this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

**(RODWELL FERGUSON)**  
*Minister of Public Utilities, Energy & Logistics*  
*Minister responsible for Electricity*