

RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS – RADIO & APPARATUS LICENSING

1. What is Radiocommunications?	Radiocommunications means any emission or reception of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds or intelligence of any nature through space by electromagnetic waves.
2. What is a Radio Licence?	It is a unilateral grant of permission by the Regulator (TRBR) to a person or a group of persons, for the use of a radio transmitting device as required by section 12 (2) of the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulation Act No. 30 of 2009 as amended by Amendment No 22 of 2018.
3. What is a Spectrum Licence?	It is a unilateral grant of permission by the Regulator (TRBR) to a person or a group of persons, for the use of a band of radio frequencies in a geographical area, and it must not be regarded as a contract or bilateral agreement. This is usually for the provision of telecommunications services and the Licence identifies and specifies lower and upper frequency use limits. The term of a Spectrum Licence is usually for several years and, where the spectrum licensee is for a telecommunications licensee, the date of expiry is linked to the expiry date of his/her telecommunications service licence.
4. What is a Telecommunications Licence?	It is a unilateral grant of permission by the Regulator to a person or a group persons, for the provision of telecommunications services, as required by section 12 (1) of the Telecommunications Radiocommunications and Broadcasting Regulation Act and under the terms and conditions specified in the Telecommunications Licence. It must not regarded as a contract or bilateral agreement.
5. Do I need a radio licence for my radio transmitting equipment or device?	Yes, under law you need a licence to install and operate your radio transmitting equipment. Section 12(2) of the Telecommunications Radiocommunications and Broadcatsing Regulation Act No. 30 of 2009 as amended by Amendment No 22 of 2018, makes it an obligation for all radio transmissions to be licensed. This is why you must have a licence to operate your radio transmitting apparatus. It is an offence to operate a radio transmitting device without a valid licence.
6. Do all types of radio devices need to be licensed?	No! Radio receivers that receive radio or television broadcasts do not need a licence. Only equipment capable of transmitting radio frequency energy is required by law to be licensed. However, there are certain types of equipment such as mobile telephones, cordless telephones, wireless modems, etc, and although fall under the same category of radio transmitting equipment they are not required to be individually licensed as they are covered by a general

	<p>user radio licence (GURL) . All other radio transmitting equipment must be licensed. For more information on GURLs please click here (Link GURL doc here)</p>
<p>7. What are the common types of radio equipment that require a radio licence?</p>	<p>Common types of radio transmitting equipment or transmitting stations requiring a radio licence are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tele-radio Station (Land-based) stations (HF, VHF) • Ship stations (HF, VHF, UHF, VSATs , EPIRBs , etc.) • VSAT Stations (Hotels, Bungalows, Health Centers, schools, private individuals, etc.) • Aircraft stations (HF, VHF, UHF, satellite, etc.) • Land mobile stations (HF, VHF, UHF, satellite, etc.) • Fixed stations (HF, VHF, UHF, Microwave links, Satellite Earth Stations, etc.) • Broadcasting stations (Radio and Television) • Amateur Radio Stations (HF, VHF, UHF, Satellite)
<p>8. Do I need to pay a licence fee for my radio transmitting device?</p>	<p>Yes. You must pay a licence fee for every transmitting equipment unless for those falling under the general authorization or a GURL. If in doubt please contact TRBR on 678 - 27621 or email: enquiries@trbr.vu</p>
<p>9. Why do I need to pay a licence fee?</p>	<p>The Act provides for the Regulator as an independent entity, to manage the radio spectrum and a fee is charged to help offset the administrative costs of the Regulator's Office as well as overheads, and to ensure that those that use the radio spectrum pay. The Government does not provide or allocate funds the Office of the Regulator to undertake its functions. Therefore, under law, you are required to pay a licence fee.</p>
<p>10. What is the term of a radio licence?</p>	<p>The term of a radio licence is currently one year and runs from 1st January to 31st December each year. If you apply for a licence in the middle of the year or any calendar month of the year, the licence term will still end on 31st December of the year, and the fees will be the same. If your business relies on a valid radio licence(s) and for guaranteed uninterrupted operation and disappointment, it is important to ensure that your radio licence is renewed before you take your Christmas vacation.</p>
<p>11. Is the licence fee paid only once upon granting of the licence?</p>	<p>Currently, the fee structure is designed such that only a single fee is paid for all the work associated with the granting of a radio licence. Because the fees are only valid for 12 months, you are required to pay the same fee if you need to use your radio transmitter again the following year. In other words, you need</p>

	to pay the same fee upon renewal of your licence.
12. Will my radio licence be automatically renewed by TRBR and I will be notified and asked to pay the necessary renewal fee?	No, your licence will not be automatically renewed. It is your duty to ensure that you pay the necessary licence fee to qualify for renewal. Licence renewal notices will normally be sent out by TRBR to current radio licence holders, but you may also contact the TRBR office yourself before the end of each year and request that your licence be renewed and you have paid the necessary fee.
13. What if I do not want to renew my licence but carry on using your radio?	If you use your radio equipment without a valid licence, you are breaking the law and are liable to be prosecuted. You are therefore required to ensure that your equipment always has a valid radio licence.
14. What do General User Radio Licences (GURLs) cover?	<p>Currently GURLs cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile telephone handsets • Citizen Band radios (CB) • Cordless telephones • Short-range Radio Devices (SRD), such as toys, car door openers, garage door openers, etc. <p>As technology evolves it is expected that more and more radio devices will be developed that may qualify for GURL status. In such cases TRR will issue GURLs to cover such devices.</p>