

FORM 315 INSTRUCTIONS

1. This FCC Form is to be used to apply for consent to transfer control of an entity holding an international broadcast station (IBS) construction permit or license.
2. This application form makes many references to FCC rules. Applicants should have on hand and be familiar with current broadcast rules in Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.):
 3. 1. Part 0 "Commission Organization"
 2. Part 1 "Practice and Procedure"
 3. Part 73 "Radio Broadcast Services"

An up-to-date electronic version of Title 47 of the CFR may be accessed at <https://www.ecfr.gov>

4. Public Notice Requirements:

5. 4. 47 C.F.R. Section 73.3580(a)(5) requires that applicants for consent to transfer control of an entity holding a construction permit or license for an international broadcast station post notice of the application on a publicly accessible, locally targeted website that targets the local community in which the international broadcast station's transmission facilities are located (e.g., local government internet website, local community bulletin board internet website), for 30 continuous days following acceptance of the application for filing, in the form prescribed in 47 CFR § 73.3580(b)(2).
6. 5. Intent to comply with the public notice requirements must be certified by the Transferor in the Application.
7. Applicants should provide all information called for by this application. If any portions of the application are not applicable, the applicant should so state. **Defective or incomplete applications will be returned without consideration.** Inadvertently accepted applications are subject to dismissal. In accordance with 47 C.F.R. Section 1.65, applicants have a

continuing obligation to advise the Commission, through amendments, of any substantial and material changes in the information furnished in this application. This requirement continues until the FCC action on this application is no longer subject to reconsideration by the Commission or review by any court.

8. This application requires applicants to certify compliance with many statutory and regulatory requirements. Detailed instructions and worksheets provide additional information regarding Commission rules and policies. These materials are designed to track the standards and criteria which the Commission applies to determine compliance and to increase the reliability of applicant certifications. They are not intended to be a substitute for familiarity with the Communications Act and the Commission's regulations, policies, and precedent. While applicants are required to review all application instructions and worksheets, they are not required to complete or retain any documentation created or collected to complete the application.
9. This application is presented primarily in a "Yes/No" certification format. However, it contains places for submitting explanations and exhibits where necessary or appropriate. Each certification constitutes a material representation. Applicants may only mark the "Yes" certification when they are certain that the response is correct. A "No" response is required if the applicant is requesting a waiver of a pertinent rule and/or policy, or where the applicant is uncertain that the application fully satisfies the pertinent rule and/or policy. Thus, a "No" response to any of the certification items **may not** cause the immediate dismissal of the application provided that an appropriate exhibit is submitted.
10. FRN. To comply with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, the applicant must enter its FCC Registration Number (FRN), unique entity identifier for anyone doing business with the Commission. If you do not have an FRN, you can obtain one through the FCC's CORES (COMmission REGistration System) web page.
11. Fees. The Commission is statutorily required to collect charges for certain regulatory services to the public. Generally, applicants seeking to transfer control of an entity holding licenses or permits of international broadcast stations are required to submit a fee with the filing of the application. Government entities, however, are exempt from this fee requirement. Exempt entities include possessions, states, cities, counties, towns, villages, municipal organizations, and political organizations or subparts thereof governed by elected or appointed officials exercising sovereign direction over communities or governmental programs. For further information regarding the applicability of a fee, the fee code, the amount of the fee, or the fee payment procedures, applicants should consult the relevant fee filing guide, which may be accessed at <https://www.fcc.gov/licensing-databases/fees/application-processing-fees>.
12. Character Issues/Adverse Findings. These questions require an evaluation of any unresolved character issues involving the transferor or any of its principals, as well as any relevant adverse findings by a court or administrative body. Character issue questions

require the applicant to certify that neither the applicant nor any party to the application has had any interest in or connection with an application that was or is the subject of unresolved character issues. An applicant must disclose in response to the Adverse Findings question whether the applicant or any party to the application has been the subject of a final adverse finding with respect to certain relevant non-broadcast matters. The Commission's character policies and litigation reporting requirements for broadcast applicants focus on misconduct which violates the Communications Act or a Commission rule or policy and on certain specified non-FCC misconduct. In responding to these questions, applicants should review the Commission's character qualifications policies.

Character Issues: Where the response to either of the Character Issues questions is "No," the applicant must submit an attachment that includes an identification of the party having had the interest, the call letters and location of the station or file number of the application or docket, and a description of the nature of the interest or connection, including relevant dates. The applicant should also fully explain why the unresolved character issue is not an impediment to a grant of this application.

Adverse Findings: In responding to the Adverse Findings question, the applicant should consider any relevant adverse finding. Where that adverse finding was fully disclosed to the Commission in an application filed on behalf of this station or in another broadcast station application and the Commission, by specific ruling or by subsequent grant of the application, found the adverse finding not to be disqualifying, it need not be reported again and the applicant may respond "Yes" to this item. However, an adverse finding that has not been reported to the Commission and considered in connection with a prior application would require a "No" response.

Where the response to the Adverse Findings question is "No," the applicant must provide in an attachment a full disclosure of the persons and matters involved, including an identification of the court or administrative body and the proceeding (by dates and file numbers), and the disposition of the litigation. Where the requisite information has been earlier disclosed in connection with another pending application, or as required by 47 CFR § 1.65(c), the applicant need only provide an identification of that previous submission by reference to the file number in the case of an application, the call letters of the station regarding which the application or Section 1.65 information was filed, and the date of filing. The applicant should also fully explain why the adverse finding is not an impediment to a grant of this application.

13. Both parties to the transaction must sign the application. Depending on the nature of the applicant, the application should be signed as follows: if a sole proprietorship, personally; if a partnership, by a general partner; if a corporation, by an officer; if an unincorporated association, by a member who is an officer; for a governmental entity, by such duly elected or appointed official as is competent under the laws of the particular jurisdiction. Counsel may sign the application for his or her client, but only in cases of the applicant's disability or absence from the United States. In such cases, counsel shall separately set forth the reasons for believing that such statements are true.

14. **Waivers:** If any waiver of the Commission's rules is requested at any part of the application, the applicant must specify the number of rule sections for which the waiver is requested. In addition, the applicant must also submit an attachment setting forth the waiver(s) sought and the legal justification for waiver.
15. **Parties to the Application.** "Parties to the Application" include the following with respect to each of the listed applicant entities:

Individual. The natural person seeking to hold in his or her own right the authorization specified in this application.

Partnership. Each partner, including all limited partners. However, a limited partner in a limited partnership is **not** considered a party to the application **IF** the limited partner is not materially involved, directly or indirectly, in the management or operation of the media-related activities of the partnership and the applicant so certifies. Sufficient insulation of a limited partner for purposes of this certification would be assured if the limited partnership arrangement. Notwithstanding conformance of the partnership agreement to these criteria, however, the requisite certification cannot be made if the applicant has actual knowledge of a material involvement of a limited partner in the management or operation of the media-related businesses of the partnership. In the event that the applicant cannot certify as to the noninvolvement of a limited partner, the limited partner **will** be considered as a party to this application.

Limited Liability Company. The Commission treats an LLC as a limited partnership, each of whose members is considered to be a party to the application. However, where an LLC member is insulated with respect to a limited partnership and where the relevant state statute authorizing the LLC permits an LLC member to insulate itself in accordance with the Commission's criteria, that LLC member is not considered a party to the application.

Corporation: Each officer, director and owner of stock accounting for 5% or more of the issued and outstanding voting stock of the applicant is considered a party to the applicant. Where the 5% stock owner is itself a corporation, each of its stockholders, directors and "executive" officers (president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer or their equivalents) is considered a party to this application **UNLESS** the applicant submits as an exhibit a statement establishing that an individual director or officer **will** not exercise authority or influence in areas that **will** affect the applicant or the station. In this statement, the applicant should identify the individual by name and title, describe the individual's duties and responsibilities, and explain the manner in which such individual is insulated from the corporate applicant and should not be attributed an interest in the corporate applicant or considered a party to this application. In addition, a person or entity holding an ownership interest in the corporate stockholder of the applicant is considered a party to this application **ONLY IF** that interest, when multiplied by the corporate stockholder's interest in the applicant, would account for 5% or more of the issued and outstanding voting stock of the applicant. For example, where Corporation X owns stock accounting for 25% of the applicant's votes, only Corporation X shareholders holding 20 percent or more of the issued and outstanding voting stock of Corporation X have a 5% or more indirect

interest in the applicant (.25 x .20 = .05) and, therefore, are considered parties to this application. In applying the multiplier, any entity holding more than 50% of its subsidiary will be considered a 100% owner. Where the 5% stock owner is a partnership, each general partner and any limited partner that is not insulated, regardless of the partnership interest, is considered a party to the application.

Stock subject to stockholder cooperative voting agreements accounting for 5% or more of the votes in a corporate applicant will be treated as if held by a single entity and any stockholder holding 5% or more of the stock in that block is considered a party to this application.

An investment company, insurance company or trust department of a bank is not considered a party to this application, and an applicant may properly certify that such entity's interest is non-attributable, **IF** its aggregated holding accounts for less than 20% of the outstanding votes in the applicant **AND IF**:

such entity exercises no influence or control over the corporation, directly or indirectly; and

such entity has no representatives among the officers and directors of the corporation.

Any Other Applicant: Each executive officer, member of the governing board and owner or holder of 5% or more of the votes in the applicant is considered a party to the applicant.

16. Alien Ownership and Control. All applications must comply with section 310 of the Communications Act, as amended. Specifically, section 310 proscribes issuance of a construction permit or station license to an alien, a representative of an alien, a foreign government or representative thereof, or a corporation organized under the laws of a foreign government. This proscription also applies with respect to any entity of which more than 20 percent of the capital stock is owned or voted by aliens, their representatives, a foreign government or its representative, or an entity organized under the laws of a foreign country. The Commission may also deny a construction permit or station license to a licensee directly or indirectly controlled by another entity of which more than 25 percent of the capital stock is owned or voted by aliens, their representatives, a foreign government or its representative, or another entity organized under the laws of a foreign country. Any such applicant seeking Commission consent to exceed this 25 percent benchmark in section 310(b)(4) of the Act must do so by filing a petition for declaratory ruling pursuant to 47 CFR §§ 1.5000-04. For more detailed information on identifying and calculating foreign interests, see *Review of Foreign Ownership Policies for Broadcast, Common Carrier and Aeronautical Radio Licensees Under Section 310(b)(4) of the Communications Act of 1934, as Amended*, 31 FCC Rcd 11272, paras. 44-77 (2016).

17. Financial Qualifications. An transferee must certify that it is financially qualified to effectuate its proposal, with sufficient net liquid assets on hand or available from committed sources of funds to consummate the transaction and operate the facilities for three months without additional revenue. This certification includes all contractual

requirements, if any, as to collateral, guarantees, and capital investments. Documentation supporting this certification need not be submitted with this application but must be made available to the Commission upon request. Financial statements relied on to make this certification should be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

18. Anti-Drug Abuse Act Certification. This question requires the Transferee to certify that neither it nor any party to the application is subject to denial of federal benefits pursuant to the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. Section 862. Section 5301 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 provides federal and state court judges the discretion to deny federal benefits to individuals convicted of offenses consisting of the distribution or possession of controlled substances. Federal benefits within the scope of the statute include FCC authorizations.

With respect to this item only, the term "party to the application" includes if the applicant is an individual, that individual; if the applicant is a corporation or unincorporated association, all officers, directors, or persons holding 5 percent or more of the outstanding stock or shares (voting and/or non-voting) of the applicant; all members if a membership organization; and if the applicant is a partnership, all general partners and all limited partners, including both insulated and non-insulated limited partners, holding a 5 percent or more interest in the partnership.

19. Transferee's Equal Employment Opportunity Program. Applicants seeking authority to obtain consent for transfer of control of an entity holding the construction permit or license of an international broadcast station are required to afford equal employment opportunity to all qualified persons and to refrain from discriminating in employment and related benefits on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or sex. See 47 C.F.R. § 73.2080. Pursuant to these requirements, an applicant who proposes to employ five or more full-time employees in its station employment unit must establish a program designed to assure equal employment opportunity for women and minority groups. This is submitted to the Commission as the Model EEO Program on FCC Form 396-A, which should be filed as part of the application. If an applicant proposes to employ less than five full-time employees in its station employment unit, no EEO program for women or minorities need be filed.