Easy access to copyright material such as published reports, research, newspaper, magazine and journal articles is essential for the everyday operation of government-related organisations.

Government departments, agencies and government-related bodies in Australia are able to efficiently manage their copyright obligations by obtaining coverage for use under a Copyright Agency licence arrangement.

Copyright Agency is a copyright rights management organisation that represents book, journal, newspaper and magazine publishers along with hundreds of thousands of Australian and international authors, photographers, journalists and visual artists.

Copyright Agency administers a range of copyright licences that enable easy use of published material including:

- Photocopying
- Scanning
- Faxing
- Emailing published material
- Forwarding attachments
- Posting on a website
- Posting to an intranet
- Saving to USB or disk
- Downloading material from websites
- Printing or emailing content to work colleagues

Licences help your organisation to centralise copyright management and remove your obligation to negotiate separate agreements with individual copyright owners every time your staff want to use an article or other published work.

The payments Copyright Agency collects are then distributed on your behalf to authors and publishers.
If your department, agency or government-related body uses copyright material and does not have direct arrangements with the copyright owners, you will need to have a licence agreement in place.

Copyright Agency administers two licences for government and government-related bodies. The most suitable licence for you depends on whether your organisation makes copies for the services of the Crown.

The two licences available to government-related bodies are:

**The Statutory Government Licence:**
This licence, which is the most common licence arrangement, is established under the Copyright Act 1968 and provides Commonwealth, State and Territory government departments and agencies (the Crown), and persons authorised in writing by the Crown, with the freedom to make unlimited numbers of copies of copyright material – provided the copying is done for the services of the Crown.

**The GovCopy Licence:**
The GovCopy Licence has been specifically tailored to accommodate the needs of government-related bodies that are not Crown bodies, or that copy outside the services of the Crown, and are therefore unable to rely on the Statutory Government Licence.

The GovCopy Licence provides quasi-government bodies with the freedom to email published material internally, place a work on an intranet and scan, photocopy and fax a large variety of published material within certain limits.
The Copyright Act 1968 provides a statutory licence which enables State, Territory and Commonwealth Departments and agencies (the Crown) and persons authorised in writing by the Crown, to make unlimited numbers of copies of copyright material for the services of the Crown.

There are a number of criteria* which can help determine whether your organisation is part of the Crown and therefore entitled to use the Statutory Government Licence, including whether your organisation:

- Has been established or incorporated as an entity of the Commonwealth, State or Territory governments
- Operates under Commonwealth, State, Territory or Ministerial direction or control
- Primarily provides services for the Commonwealth, State, or Territory governments and/or
- Falls under the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 (Cth) or the Authorities and Companies Act 1997 (Cth) or equivalent State or Territory legislation

What if our organisation is not part of the Crown?

If your organisation is not part of the Crown, or authorised in writing by the Crown, or sometimes does not copy for the services of the Crown, then Copyright Agency can offer you a GovCopy Licence.

The GovCopy Licence allows your organisation to copy works within certain limits, for example making unlimited numbers of copies of up to 10 percent – or one chapter – without needing to contact the copyright owner directly.

The Australian Government Solicitor is an example of a government-related body that is not a Commonwealth, State or Territory department or agency, and as such has opted for the GovCopy Licence. Other examples of bodies who currently hold GovCopy licences are: Broome Port Authority, Horizon Power, Ausgrid, Delta Electricity, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency, the Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority, the Family Court of Australia (Cth), the Federal Court of Australia (Cth) and the National Transport Commission.

To find out if your organisation currently has a licence arrangement in place, please visit www.copyright.com.au under Government Sector Licences.

*This list of criteria is a guide only. You should seek independent legal advice to determine your status and contact your government representative.
To sign up for the Statutory Government Licence
If your organisation is part of the Crown, or authorised in writing by the Crown, your government representative can add your organisation to the Statutory Government Licence administered by Copyright Agency. This will give you the freedom to make unlimited numbers of copies of copyright material – provided the copying is done for the services of the Crown.

Contact Copyright Agency’s Government Licensing Team to find out who your government representative is on +61 2 9394 7600 or email government@copyright.com.au

To sign up for a GovCopy Licence
Should your organisation not be part of the Crown, or authorised in writing by the Crown, or sometimes does not copy for the services of the Crown, Copyright Agency’s Government Licensing Team can arrange a GovCopy Licence directly with your organisation.

For more information on our Govcopy Licence contact Copyright Agency’s Government Licensing Team on +61 2 9394 7600 or email government@copyright.com.au

KEY BENEFITS OF A GOVCOPY LICENCE

CONVENIENCE
Save staff time and money by simplifying copyright management including searching for copyright owners, negotiating terms of use and record-keeping.

REDUCED RISK
Protect your organisation against legal proceedings by having agreed pre-determined terms for the use of copyright material.

IMPROVED GOVERNANCE
Show your organisation’s respect for others’ intellectual property and demonstrate good corporate citizenship.