

ANNUAL WRITERS’ DISTRIBUTION: JUNE 2023

Writers who own copyright in their writing are entitled to payments from Copyright Agency. For allocation purposes, they can be categorised as:

1. Writers with book publishing contracts that ‘split’ Copyright Agency payments between the publisher and the writer (and sometimes also with other contributors: a co-author or illustrator).
2. Writers of books that are now ‘out of commerce’, and the publisher no longer has a contractual entitlement to a share of Copyright Agency payments (‘reverted titles’).
3. Writers of ‘components’ of publications (such as newspaper articles, journal articles and essays published in books) who retain copyright but do not have arrangements with a publisher to receive Copyright Agency payments.

This distribution is primarily for writers in the third category, by providing them (as a class) with a share of licence fees that we have received from various sources.

We use a combination of data sources to allocate the fund to writers.

CHANGES SINCE 2022 DISTRIBUTION

Funds for distribution

- since 1 July 2022, we have been including unpaid amounts from previous years’ distributions (‘rollovers’) in distributions; and
- there is an amount set aside from the distribution of additional licence fees from the university sector for 2019–2022.

New data

The main new source of data is writers who have entered publications containing writing in which they own copyright, in their online account, since April 2022 distribution.

For the additional funds from the university sector, we have used the data on payments to writers, other than book shares, from the distributions of the initial licence fees from the university sector (from 2019 to 2022).

FUNDS FOR DISTRIBUTION

	Gross \$m	Admin	Cultural Fund	Net \$m
Annual Writers Distribution: education and government (up to Mar23)	1.73	17.4%	1.5%	1.37
Annual Writers Distribution: Universities additional fees (2019–22)	1.11	13.5%	1.5%	0.93
Annual Writers Distribution: International (up to Mar23)	0.48	17.4%	1.5%	0.38
Annual Writers Distribution: Commercial licences (up to Mar23)	0.72	17.4%	1.5%	0.58
Annual Writers Distribution: ‘Rollovers (Education, Government & International)	1.71	–	–	1.71
Annual Writers Distribution: Rollovers (Commercial)	0.35	–	–	0.35
Total	6.09			5.30

DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULED FOR

June 2023

SOURCES OF DATA FOR DISTRIBUTION

The main sources of data are:

- past recipients from Annual Writers Distributions
- members who have provided information about eligible publications via their online account
- usage data from schools and universities (allocations and data carried forward)
- data on payments to writers, other than book shares, from the distributions of the initial licence fees from the university sector (from 2019 to 2022)

RIGHTSHOLDERS ENTITLED TO ALLOCATION

Writers who we have a reasonable prospect of paying (e.g. we have current contact information for them) and:

- are members, either directly or through an agent, or
- who have applied for membership (and have been assigned an Account ID).

APPORTIONMENT TO RECIPIENTS

- All writers receive a 'base' allocation
- Writers receive a higher allocation if a publication containing their work is in usage data from schools or universities, and they are not entitled to a share of allocations to the publications.

OBLIGATION TO SHARE PAYMENTS

Writers are not required to share payments, but writers' agents are obliged to pass on allocations to their clients.

RECIPIENTS

There are about 5,700 recipients.