

LICENCE FEES FROM AUTHORS LICENSING AND COLLECTING SOCIETY (ALCS): FEBRUARY 2026

Background

Copyright Agency receives licence fees from the UK-based [Authors Licensing and Collecting Society \(ALCS\)](#) for the use of Australian authors' works in the UK.

Twice a year we receive a list of people the ALCS have identified as Australian. We review and inform ALCS if there are any people on the list that we know are not registered to pay tax in Australia. ALCS will then pay licence fees and provide data for the aggregate of the amounts allocated to the remaining people we will collect for.

We have given an undertaking to the UK tax department (HM Revenue & Customs) that we will not accept payments from ALCS for people who are not registered to pay tax in Australia. This is connected to UK policies and practices to reduce tax avoidance in the UK.

DATA

The ALCS data provides the name of the person to whom ALCS has made an allocation, and in some instances the publication the allocation was for. We pass on the allocation to that person, even if we would not pay that person for that publication if the copying occurred in Australia. That is because distribution policies of foreign copyright management organisations can be different to ours, and the copying occurred overseas where those policies apply.

ALLOCATIONS TO NON-MEMBERS

We allocate money to both members and non-members as our bilateral agreements with overseas collecting societies enables us to receive money for non-member Australian rightsholders on the understanding we will attempt to find them.

OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS OF LICENCE FEES FROM OCSs

There are separate distributions of other money received from OCSs:

- International Text and Images (distributed annually)
- Payments from the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) for Australian offices of US companies licensed by CCC that we include in our distributions of licence fees from corporate blanket licences

Funds for distribution (approx.)

	Gross \$m	Admin 14.9%	Cultural Fund 1.5%	Net \$m
International – ALCS (UK)	.46	.07	.01	.39

Data sources, selection, and weighting

Pool	Data source	Criteria for data selection	Weighting
International – ALCS (UK)	Authors Licensing Collecting Society (ALCS)	All Australian residents for tax purposes (both members and non-members). Any residual non-AU residents provided by ALCS are excluded from distribution with their fees reapportioned to included recipients.	Allocated amount as provided by the ALCS.

Amounts set aside for Annual Artists and Writers Distribution

In addition to any licence fees without title or rightsholder information set aside for the annual writers and artists distribution, we also include unpaid international allocations from past distributions (rollovers) into the relevant annual artist or writers' distribution. Allocations from past ALCS distributions will be included in the FY26 Annual Writer's distribution.

More information about payments to members

There is more information about payments to members on our website in the [Members>Payments section](#), and the [Members>Fees webpage](#).