

ANNUAL LICENCE FEES FROM SCHOOLS: MAY 2026 DISTRIBUTION

Introduction

In 2022, Copyright Agency reached agreement with the Copyright Advisory Group (CAG) for the school sector (CAG), for the three-year period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025, with an option to renew for a further year. The agreement sets a flat rate of \$13 per student each year.

Surveys in schools ceased in March 2020 due to the pandemic. CAG and Copyright Agency agreed in 2017 to work together, from 2018, on new methods of data collection using modern technologies that, among other things, reduce teacher burden. The parties agreed that if new methods were not finalised by September 2020, either party could apply to the Copyright Tribunal for assistance. Copyright Agency applied to the Copyright Tribunal in May 2021, and the parties are continuing to work with the Tribunal to get new methods of data collection in place

Changes since previous distribution

- Unpaid licence fees held over from previous years (rollovers) will now be distributed in the annual artist and writer distribution.

The dataset for the distribution will include:

- survey data from schools from 2019 to March 2020
- titles from a questionnaire completed by teachers in 2025 (as well as titles from questionnaires in 2024, 2023, 2022 and 2021)
- new titles from the Educational Lending Right (ELR) scheme
- titles from the Schools’ Curriculum Information Service (SCIS) database
- titles provided by the Australian Publishers Association
- Titles sourced from the school’s data collection pilot conducted in 7 schools capturing hardcopy and electronic use

Funds for distribution

	\$m			
	Gross	Admin 14.9%	Cultural Fund 1.5%	Net
Licence fees invoiced for January to December 2026	54.00	8.0	.80	45.10

Distribution pools

	%
Publications (publishers of books, journals, newspapers, websites and writers/illustrators with book shares)	89%
AMCOS	2%
Annual Artists Distribution	6%
Annual Writers Distribution (principally writers in periodicals, collected works)	3%
Total	100%

Pool proportions

The pools for the Annual Artists Distribution and the Annual Writers Distribution, and for AMCOS,

are based on past copying and allocations, including copying for which teachers provided insufficient information for identification of a rightsholder.

Rollover amounts

Amounts held over from previous school distributions (rollovers) will be paid out in the annual writer and annual artist distributions.

Amounts set aside for the Annual Distributions for Writers and Artists

We set aside amounts for writers and artists that we combine with amounts set aside from other licence fees and rollovers and distribute the combined amounts together. There will be separate information sheets for these distributions (scheduled for June 2026)

Data sources, selection and weighting

Data source/s	Criteria for data selection	Weighting
Survey data from schools	Publication data from 2019 to March 2020 (when survey ceased)	Based on number of schools and units copied
Titles from 2025 schools' data collection pilot (CAG and CA)	Identifiable published content	Median weight per title adjusted per occurrence in number of schools
titles from online questionnaires completed by teachers	Titles provided from 2021 to 2025	Median weight per title, based on past survey data with adjustments for frequently reported titles
Nielsen BookScan bibliographic data	Textbooks published from 2020	Median weight per title, based on past survey data
titles available from education suppliers	New education titles provided	Median weight per title, based on past survey data
titles from the Educational Lending Right Scheme	1,000 most borrowed titles to 2025	Median weight per title, based on past survey data
titles from the Schools' Curriculum Information Service (SCIS) database	Unique primary and secondary non-fiction titles published from prioritised by year of publication	Median weight per title, based on past survey data
titles from the Australian Publishers' Association (APA) <i>TitlePage</i> database	Titles published from 2020 with a BIC code of 'YQ' (educational publishing) not already appearing in other sources	Median weight per title, based on past survey data

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](#).