

FCC Reimbursement Claims Process

The FCC is now starting the reimbursement process for affected FM stations, LPTVs, and translators that incur costs due to TV spectrum repack work. The FCC recently released a series of Public Notices announcing (1) the availability of reimbursement claim forms, detailed instructions, and an initial October filing deadline; and (2) payment instruction forms and procedures.

Below are resources to assist in understanding this process:

- [FCC's Reimbursement Web Page](#)
- [FCC Public Notice on Reimbursement Claims Process](#)
- [LPTV, TV Translator, and FM Station Reimbursement Webinar Video](#)
- [FCC Financial Procedures Public Notice](#)

A PMBA Watercooler Conversation on the subject will be coming soon!

New Content Management System for Public Radio

From NPR's Thomas Hjelm, Chief Digital Officer, and Kerry Lenahan, Vice President Product

Earlier this summer, [we shared the news](#) that NPR was exploring various third-party vendor options to replace both Core Publisher and Seamus, the content management systems we have built and supported for Member stations and NPR, respectively. Today we are pleased to announce that we have selected Perfect Sense as the vendor, and that we will license and customize their Brightspot CMS. Over the next year, we will develop and build a completely customized publishing platform on top of Brightspot, with the goal of empowering Member stations and NPR staff to tell the stories that matter most in ways that engage audiences.

[Read the full letter.](#)

NPR will offer two webinars to provide high-level details about the feature set, discuss the migration strategy, and answer your questions.

- Thursday, September 19, at 1:00 pm ET | [Register here](#)
 - Wednesday, September 25, at 1:00 pm ET | [Register here](#)
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Radio CSG Review Panel

The Public Broadcasting Act requires the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), in

consultation with system representatives, to periodically evaluate the Community Service Grant program's effectiveness and impact, and to ensure CPB's efficient stewardship of federal dollars.

CPB has assembled a Radio CSG Review System Consultation Panel (Panel) to evaluate the current radio CSG program and advise CPB management as to what, if any, changes should be made to the CSG program to better reflect current conditions within public radio, the media industry, and stations' communities of service. CPB management will review the Panel's recommendations and provide the CPB board of directors with a final set of recommendations for its review and consideration.

The Panel met for the fourth time at CPB on July 23–24, 2019, and further explored a new framework for the Radio CSG program—moving from the current four levels to categories based on Coverage Area Populations (CAP). The panelists continued to evaluate NFFS eligibility and base grant amounts within the context of the proposed CAP framework, and it continued to discuss a tiered approach to NFFS for the purpose of calculating the incentive grant portion of the CSG. The Panel also considered whether the Radio CSG program should remain open to new applicants and reviewed the probationary period for grantees that fall below the minimum eligibility requirements (NFFS and Audience Service Criteria).

[Read the full fourth meeting summary.](#)

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How to Experiment with Local TV News: It's Really About Choosing Your Own Adventure

NiemanLab

Choose Your Own Adventure books were a big hit. But what about choose your news?

This isn't quite personalizing algorithms on a news site's homepage or platforms surfacing different items in your feed. One local TV station let its followers decide the stories shown on its evening newscast. It used GroundSource to collect story ideas over SMS from viewers two weeks in advance and polling Twitter followers hours before the show began over which topics they wanted to watch. ("An experimental community" beat "oil on Native lands" and "emissions and ride-sharing," this time.) The unchosen content still was available online for viewers to see. [Read more](#)

Access Past PMBA Webinar Recordings

Free to Members

Did you know that PMBA archives all of its [webinars](#) in the members-only section of the website? Member station staff can access these informational recordings any time that's convenient for them.

Here are just a few of the available recordings:

- Active Shooter Training—How to Prepare Your Station
- Addressing and Mitigating Implicit Bias
- Time's Up on Sexual Harassment

If you are a PMBA member and are having difficulty accessing the members-only section, please contact [Jenny Wickline](#).

Member Benefit

Job Description Tool

Have you checked out PMBA's newest member benefit—the [Job Description Tool](#)? The tool enables you to find templated descriptions for positions at your station, including:

- Accounting Technician
- Chief Financial Officer
- Director of Education
- Funder Relations Manager
- Staff Accountant
- Television Program Manager

The tool allows you to sort results by station size and job type.

If you have a job description template that you would like to contribute to this database, please [email us](#).

Smart Speakers Grow in Importance

Radio World

People are talking to Alexa; but the smart speaker isn't the only one listening. Radio industry leaders are paying attention—designing digital plans to make listening to their own streams on voice assistant platforms as easy as possible.

Smart speakers in the home have expanded the audio landscape quickly. Radio broadcasters have been watching this trend from its outset, as we have reported, and they continue to seek ways to take advantage of the voice-driven technology. [Read more](#)

Industry Job Listings

Provided as a PMBA member service, the [industry job listings page](#) includes current industry job openings. New listings are added regularly, so check the page frequently for the latest job openings.

Here are just a few of the latest job listings:

- [Investigative Reporter/Coordinator](#) (St. Louis Public Radio | 90.7 KWMU)
- [Business Sponsorship Account Executive](#) (Wisconsin Public Radio)
- [Staff Reporter - Arts & Culture](#) (KCTS 9)
- [Digital Developer](#) (KERA)

If you would like to list a job opening, please [email PMBA](#) a link to the job posting, including the closing date.

Is Your Benefits Package Ready for 2020?

HRMorning

It's never too early to be ready to watch for changes affecting your benefits package for 2020. How can HR pros stay on top of compliance changes? To help, health leader Mercer recently unveiled its annual list of the top compliance issues employers have to consider when putting together their benefits packages for the upcoming plan year. [Read more](#)

Share Your Company News

We'd like to share your company news with PMBA members. If you have a story you'd like to share, please send it to info@pmbaonline.org.

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