



Commonwealth Fact Sheet



RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS ACT 1992

If your project involves radiocommunications you need to comply with this Act.

1. What approvals do I need

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) is an independent Commonwealth statutory authority that regulates communications and media services in Australia, including the regulation of radiocommunications. Radiocommunications licences are as follows:

- **Apparatus licences** authorise the use of a device or devices, typically on a site-specific basis. Licences are usually issued on a first-in-time coordinated basis to manage interference. Examples of services authorised by apparatus licences include satellite earth stations, television and radio broadcast towers, point-to-point radio links, radar, amateur radio and maritime and aeronautical radiocommunications;
- **Spectrum licences** authorise the operation of multiple devices over a defined geographical area and frequency range. Spectrum licences are typically issued to operators wishing to deploy wide-area networks and make long term infrastructure investments. This includes mobile network operators and some government uses (such as defence); and
- **Class licences** authorise the use of devices in specific frequency bands under defined conditions. Device types include, Citizen Band radios, satellite phones, wireless monitoring systems, WiFi and Bluetooth. Users do not need to apply for a licence and no fees apply.

The ACMA also has measures to protect sensitive radio services in specific locations, such as the [Australian Radio Quiet Zone Western Australia \(ARQZWA\)](#), deep space tracking facilities and defence installations, amongst others.

2. Who provides approvals?

The ACMA manages and regulates access to the radiofrequency spectrum through licensing of devices, regulation of the supply of certain equipment and managing interference between services.

3. How do I get a Commonwealth approval?

Information on planning and licensing, equipment regulation and other aspects of spectrum management regulation is available from the ACMA [website](#).

If you're planning an activity within certain protected areas, there may be additional consultation and approvals required.

4. More information

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For more information on the Radiocommunications Act and spectrum management regulation, visit the ACMA [website](#) or contact:

Phone: 1300 850 115

Email: info@acma.gov.au

Major Projects Facilitation Agency

If you would like assistance to identify the regulatory obligations for your project, please visit our [Online Tool](#) or contact us:

Phone: 02 6243 7121

Email: contact@mpaa.gov.au