



Fact sheet



Radiocommunications Act 1992

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

1. What approvals do I need?

In general, use of the radiocommunications spectrum requires a licence under the [Radiocommunications Act 1992](#). 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 systems authorised by apparatus licences include satellite earth stations, television and radio broadcast stations, 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 auctioned and are suitable for wide-area networks and long-term infrastructure investments. This includes mobile network operators and some government use, such as defence.
- **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, Wi-Fi and Bluetooth. Users do not need to apply for a licence and no fees apply.

Technical and regulatory measures are also in place to protect sensitive radio services in specific locations, such as the [Radio Quiet Zone](#) in Western Australia, [astronomy facilities](#), and [earth station protection zones](#). Additional regulatory approvals may be required to

supply certain [radiocommunications equipment](#) in Australia.

2. Who provides the approvals?

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) manages and regulates the radiofrequency spectrum through licensing of devices, supply of certain equipment and management of interference between services.

3. How do I apply for the approvals?

Information on planning and licensing, equipment regulation and other aspects of spectrum management is available from the ACMA [website](#). For assistance with licence applications, the ACMA advises that you engage with an [accredited person](#).

If your project includes an activity within certain protected areas, additional consultation and approvals may be required in accordance with the ACMA's [frequency coordination requirements](#).

4. More information

Australian Communications and Media Authority

The ACMA can be contacted by email at info@acma.gov.au.

Major Projects Facilitation Agency

If you would like assistance to identify potential Australian Government regulatory approvals required for your project, please refer to the [Major projects help tool](#) self-assessment.

The MPFA team can be contacted by email at MPFA@industry.gov.au.

This fact sheet provides general information and does not constitute legal advice. You should seek independent legal advice tailored to your individual circumstances. The Major Projects Facilitation Agency (MPFA) assists major project proponents to navigate Australian Government approval processes. The MPFA does not grant approvals, nor administer the legislation listed in this fact sheet.