



**MALAYSIAN COMMUNICATIONS AND MULTIMEDIA  
COMMISSION**

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE COMMUNICATIONS  
AND MULTIMEDIA (LICENSING) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS  
2025**

**1. Q: What is the scope of the amendment?**

A: The amendment made to the Communications and Multimedia (Licensing) Regulations 2000 ("**Licensing Regulations 2000**") involves the revision to the period of individual licence and the mode of payment of the initial payment for applicable annual licence fee imposed on individual licence under the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 ("**CMA98**"). The amendments are specified in the Communications and Multimedia (Licensing) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 ("**Licensing Regulations (Amendment) 2025**").

**2. Q: What is the effect of the amendments?**

A: The amendments reflect the following changes:

Change of licence period from ten (10) years to a period between five (5) to ten (10) years

- Regulation 11(1) specifies that an individual licence shall be valid for a period of at least five (5) years and shall not be more than ten (10) years from the date of grant of the individual licence unless the individual licence is cancelled by the Minister before its expiry.

The applicant who submits new individual licence application and existing licensee who submits the renewal of licence application, are required to specify its preferred period of the applied individual licence in paragraph 3 of the first section of the Form A. This is necessary as the period of the licence chosen by the applicant/ licensee will determine the initial annual licence to be paid in advance. The applicant/licensee shall do their own assessment on the preferred period of licence depending on its financial capabilities and proposed rollout plan for the deployment of its facilities and/or services under the CMA98.

Before the amendment	After the amendment
<p><b><u>Regulation 11(1)</u></b> An individual licence shall be valid for a period of <b>ten (10) years</b> from the date of grant of the individual licence unless the individual licence is cancelled by the Minister before its expiry.</p>	<p><b><u>Regulation 11(1)</u></b> An individual licence shall be valid for a period of <b>at least five (5) years and shall not be more than ten (10) years</b> from the date of grant of the individual licence unless the individual licence is cancelled by the Minister before its expiry.</p>

Payment of the initial annual licence fee in advance based on the approved licence period

- Regulation 33(3)(a) specifies that upon approval of the licence, each individual licensee shall pay a sum of RM100,000 per licence, multiplied by the number of years of the approved period of licence, in advance as initial payment of the applicable annual licence fee.

Depending on the Gross Annual Turnover (“GAT”) of the licensee, the calculation specified in paragraph 33(3)(b) and Table B (Column 1) of the First Schedule of the Licensing Regulations 2000 for the total annual licence fee payable to Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (“MCMC”) remains unchanged.

<b>Before the amendment</b>	<b>After the amendment</b>
<p><b><u>Regulation 33(3)(a)</u></b> Each individual licensee shall pay <b>a sum of RM100,000 per licence</b>, as initial payment of the applicable annual licence fee <b>on its first anniversary date of the licence and annually thereafter.</b></p>	<p><b><u>Regulation 33(3)(a)</u></b> <b>Upon approval of the licence</b>, each individual licensee shall pay <b>a sum of RM100,000 per licence, multiplied by the number of years of the approved period of licence, shall be paid in advance</b> as initial payment of the applicable annual licence fee.</p>

Before the amendment	After the amendment
<b>Not applicable</b>	<p data-bbox="865 306 1127 338"><b><u>New provision</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="865 359 1203 390"><b><u>Regulation 33(3A)</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="865 417 1372 972">The initial payment of the applicable annual licence fee that has been paid in accordance with paragraph 33(3)(a) <b>shall not be refundable</b> under any circumstances, <b>except in cases where the individual licence is surrendered</b> in accordance with the CMA98.</p>

**3. Q: When the amendment takes effect?**

A: The amendment takes effect on **15 April 2025** (“**enforcement date**”).

**4. Q: Who will be affected by the amendment?**

A: The following person will be affected by the amendment:

- i. A person who applies for a new individual licence, where a complete application for individual licence is received by MCMC on or after 15 April 2025; and
- ii. A licensee who applies to renew its individual licence, where a complete application for the renewal of the individual licence is received by MCMC on or after 15 April 2025.

The scenarios below illustrate the applicability of the amended regulations.

Date of complete application received by MCMC	Effective date of licence	The effect of the amendment
<b><u>Scenario 1</u></b>		
Before 15 April 2025	Before 15 April 2025	<p><u>Period of licence:</u> 10 years</p> <p><u>Upon approval of the licence:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>New application:</u> RM50,000 (approval fee) for each approved licence</li> <li>• <u>Renewal application:</u> RM25,000 (renewal fee) for each approved licence</li> </ul>
<b><u>Scenario 2</u></b>		
Before 15 April 2025	On or after 15 April 2025	<p><u>Period of licence:</u> 10 years</p> <p><u>Upon approval of the licence:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>New application:</u> RM50,000 (approval fee) for each approved licence</li> </ul>

Date of complete application received by MCMC	Effective date of licence	The effect of the amendment
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Renewal application:</u> RM25,000 (renewal fee) for each approved licence</li> </ul>
<b><u>Scenario 3</u></b>		
On or after 15 April 2025	After 15 April 2025	<p><u>Period of licence:</u> Ranging from 5 to 10 years</p> <p><u>Upon approval of the licence:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>New application:</u> RM50,000 (approval fee) for each approved licence; <b>or</b></li> <li>• <u>Renewal application:</u> RM25,000 (approval fee) for each approved licence; <b>and</b></li> <li>• <u>Initial payment for annual licence fee:</u> A sum of RM100,000 per licence, multiplied by the number of years of the approved period of licence.</li> </ul>

**5. Q: Will the amendment affect other fees imposed on the individual licence holders?**

A: No. The amendment only affects the period of individual licence and mode of payment for the initial payment of the applicable annual licence fee.

**6. Q: How will the amendment affect the calculation of the annual licence fee?**

A: The amendment will only affect the sum of the initial payment of the applicable annual licence fee, which is required to be paid upon approval of the licence. Upon submission of the audited accounts pursuant to Regulation 33A of the Licensing Regulations 2000, each individual licensee shall be subjected to pay the balance of applicable annual licence fee of 0.5% of its Gross Annual Turnover ("**GAT**") from the licensable activities or RM100,000.00 per licence, whichever is greater.

*Illustration for new application:*

	<b>Before the amendment</b>	<b>After the amendment</b>
Upon approval of the application.  i.e. the individual licence was issued for a period of 10 years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RM50,000 per licence ("<b>approval fee</b>").</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RM50,000 per licence ("<b>approval fee</b>"); and</li> <li>• A sum of RM100,000 per licence, multiplied by the number of years of the</li> </ul>

	Before the amendment	After the amendment
	<p>approved period of licence (“initial payment”).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Total to be paid:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 1 licence: RM50,000</li> <li>◦ 2 licences: RM100,000</li> <li>◦ 3 licences: RM150,000</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>approved period of licence (“initial payment”).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Total to be paid (for a licence period of 10 years):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 1 licence: RM1,050,000</li> <li>◦ 2 licences: RM2,100,000</li> <li>◦ 3 licences: RM3,150,000</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
On its first anniversary of licence, and annually thereafter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Total to be paid:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 1 licence: RM100,000</li> <li>◦ 2 licences: RM200,000</li> <li>◦ 3 licences: RM300,000</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The above refers as “initial payment”.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Total to be paid: None</b></li> </ul>
Upon MCMC receives the audited accounts, 3 months after the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicable annual licence fee*: RM400,000 (0.5% x RM80 million).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicable annual licence fee*: RM400,000 (0.5% x RM80 million).</li> </ul>

	Before the amendment	After the amendment
<p>financial year end (<i>submission is on annual basis</i>).</p> <p>Applicable annual licence is calculated at a rate of 0.5% of the GAT or RM100,000 per licence, whichever is greater. (<i>calculation of applicable annual licence fee will be done by MCMC on annual basis, upon receive the audited accounts from the licensee</i>).</p> <p>i.e. GAT of the licensee is RM80 million.</p>	<p>• <b>Balance of the applicable annual licence fee, to be paid within 30 days</b> from the date of notice issued by MCMC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 1 licence: RM300,000 (<i>RM400,000 – RM100,000</i>)</li> <li>◦ 2 licences: RM200,000 (<i>RM400,000 – RM200,000</i>)</li> <li>◦ 3 licences: RM100,000 (<i>RM400,000 – RM300,000</i>)</li> </ul> <p><u>Note:</u> The balance to be paid is calculated as follows:</p>	<p>• <b>Balance of the applicable annual licence fee, to be paid within 30 days</b> from the date of notice issued by MCMC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ 1 licence: RM300,000 (<i>RM400,000 – RM100,000</i>)</li> <li>◦ 2 licences: RM200,000 (<i>RM400,000 – RM200,000</i>)</li> <li>◦ 3 licences: RM100,000 (<i>RM400,000 – RM300,000</i>)</li> </ul> <p><u>Note:</u> The balance to be paid is calculated as follows:</p>

	<b>Before the amendment</b>	<b>After the amendment</b>
	<i>Applicable annual licence fee* (minus) the initial payment for the respective year.</i>	<i>Applicable annual licence fee* (minus) the initial payment <b>for the respective year.</b></i>

**7. Q: How will MCMC determine whether the individual licensees pay the applicable annual licence fee based on its GAT or only RM100,000 per licence?**

A:

- Upon approval of the licence, the individual licensees shall first pay the initial payment of the applicable annual licence fee of RM100,000 per licence, multiplied by the number of years of the approved period of licence.
- Upon receipt of the audited accounts from the licensees, MCMC will calculate the applicable annual licence fee based on the GAT from the individual licensable activity and shall notify the licensees to pay the balance due (if any). The balance due, if any, shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the date of notice issued by MCMC.
- It must be emphasised that each of the individual licensees shall submit its audited accounts to MCMC within three (3) months from the end of its financial year for the purposes of calculating the applicable annual licence fee payable to MCMC. This is a statutory obligation under Regulation 33A of the Licensing Regulations 2000.

**8. Q: What if the licensee is not able to comply with the obligation to pay the required sum of initial annual licence fee upon approval of its individual licence?**

A: Any licensee who is not able to comply with the obligation to pay the required sum of initial annual licence fee will be subject to the regulatory action in the form of cancellation of the licence in accordance with Section 37 of the CMA98.