

smaller venues, some PROs allow performers to self-report performance data, which is used by the PROs to calculate royalty distributions.⁴⁷

PROs have created royalty calculation and distribution policies to account for all the elements they consider when paying their members.⁴⁸ While some may publish aspects of these policies, information regarding any individual PRO's financial operations, including license and royalty distribution terms, may not be publicly available for competitive reasons.

II. Congressional Request and Subjects of Inquiry

In September 2024, the Copyright Office received a letter from three members of the House Judiciary Committee relaying concerns over (1) the increase of PROs and (2) difficulties regarding how to “assess how efficiently PROs are distributing general licensing revenue, based on publicly available data.”⁴⁹ The term “[g]eneral licensee” is an umbrella term referring to the hundreds of thousands of bars, restaurants, hotels, ice and roller skating rinks, theme parks and other ‘brick and mortar’ businesses . . . that are not TV, radio or audio and audio-visual streaming platforms.”⁵⁰ The letter asked the Office to gather information regarding these issues. With this notice, the Office is soliciting input to aid Congress’s consideration of these issues and invites written comments on the subjects of inquiry below.

A. The Increase in PROs

The Congressional Request states that bars, restaurants, stores, hotels, and

hundred grossing tours and festivals . . . ”); see also Jeffery Brabec & Todd Brabec, *Music, Money, and Success: The Insider's Guide to Making Money in the Music Business* 339 (7th ed. 2011) (noting that the census survey was formerly of the “top 200” tours and “eleven major venues”).

⁴⁷ Brabec at 394 (referencing ASCAP's OnStage program); see also BMI, *Get Paid for Live Performances with BMI Live*, https://www.bmi.com/special/bmi_live (last visited Jan. 22, 2025).

⁴⁸ See, e.g., ASCAP, *ASCAP's Survey and Distribution System: Rules & Policies* (Oct. 2022), <https://www.ascap.com/-/media/files/pdf/members/governing-documents/ascap-survey--distribution-rules--10322.pdf>; BMI, *Royalty Information*, <https://www.bmi.com/creators#royaltyinformation> (providing higher-level royalty calculation information) (last visited Jan. 22, 2025).

⁴⁹ Letter from Reps. Jordan, Issa, and Fitzgerald to Shira Perlmutter, Register of Copyrights, U.S. Copyright Office at 1–2 (Sept. 11, 2024) (“Congressional Request”), <https://www.copyright.gov/policy/pro-issues/letter-to-usco-pro-issues.pdf>.

⁵⁰ ASCAP, *Why ASCAP Licenses Bars, Restaurants & Music Venues*, <https://www.ascap.com/help/ascap-licensing/why-ascap-licenses-bars-restaurants-music-venues> (last visited Jan. 22, 2025).

music venues engaged in the public performance of musical works “have reported receiving demands for royalties from new entities claiming to represent songwriters, and threatening litigation if the demands are not met.”⁵¹ It adds that, “[c]onsidering that the possibility of substantial statutory copyright damages poses an existential risk for most bars, restaurants, and other small businesses, many feel compelled to pay these entities on top of what they already pay for blanket licenses from the traditional PROs.”⁵²

The Office is requesting public comment on the following topics:

1. To what extent, if any, have there been increased financial and administrative costs imposed on licensees associated with paying royalties to additional PROs;
2. Factors that may be contributing to the formation of new PROs; and
3. Recommendations on how to improve clarity and certainty for entities seeking to obtain licenses from PROs to publicly perform musical works.

B. General Licensing Revenue Distribution Methods

With respect to concerns regarding revenue distribution, the Congressional Request states that “it is difficult to assess how efficiently PROs are distributing general licensing revenue based on publicly available data,” including “how accurately lesser known and independent artists as well as smaller publishers are being compensated compared to widely popular artists and major publishers.”⁵³

The Office is requesting public comment on the following topics:

4. How PROs currently gather information concerning musical works publicly performed at live music venues, on music services (e.g., digital music providers), and by other general licensees (including bars, restaurants, stores, hotels, and similar venues);
5. Whether the manner in which the PROs gather information regarding public performances adversely impacts lesser-known artists and smaller publishers;
6. What information PROs currently provide to the public, including with respect to:
 - (a) repertoire information and metadata (e.g., song titles, songwriter and publisher information, ownership shares, and unique identifiers); and
 - (b) royalty distribution practices and policies;
7. Whether any gaps or discrepancies occur in royalty distributions, including

circumstances where it is likely for performance data to be unavailable or incomplete and where PROs must rely on proxy or survey data for royalty distributions;

8. What technological and business practices exist or could be developed to improve the current systems for usage tracking and royalty distribution;

9. The extent to which current PRO royalty distribution practices are the result of existing legal and regulatory constraints; and

10. Additional recommendations for Congress to address these issues.

Dated: February 5, 2025.

Suzanne V. Wilson,

General Counsel and Associate Register of Copyrights.

[FR Doc. 2025–02418 Filed 2–7–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 1410–30–P

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Sunshine Act Meetings

The National Science Board (NSB) hereby gives notice of the scheduling of meetings for the transaction of National Science Board business pursuant to the National Science Foundation Act and the Government in the Sunshine Act.

TIME AND DATE: Tuesday, February 11, 2025, from 11:00 a.m.–1:15 p.m. Eastern.

PLACE: The meetings will be held at NSF headquarters, 2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22314, and by videoconference.

STATUS: The meetings will be closed to the public. See the full description below.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

Plenary Board Meeting

Closed Session: 11:00 a.m.–11:40 a.m.

- Chair's Opening Remarks
- Committee/Commission Reports
 - Committee on Awards and Facilities
 - National Radio Astronomy Observatory Discussion and Vote
 - Context Item: Mid-scale Research Infrastructure Track 1 Portfolio
 - Context Item: National Geophysical Facility Operations and Maintenance award
 - NSB–NSF Commission on Merit Review
 - Overview of Revised Commission Report and Discussion
- Vote to Enter Executive Closed Session

⁵¹ Congressional Request at 1–2.

⁵² *Id.* at 2.

⁵³ *Id.*

Plenary Board Meeting

Executive Closed Session: 11:45 a.m.–1:15 p.m.

- Chair's Remarks
- 2025 Honorary Awards Discussion, Vote
- Preparing for possible NSB leadership transition, including Status of Board Initiatives

Plenary Meeting Adjourns: 1:15 p.m.

Members of the public are advised that the NSB provides some flexibility around start and end times. A session may be allowed to run over by as much as 15 minutes if the Chair decides the extra time is warranted. The next session will start no later than 15 minutes after the noticed start time. If a session ends early, the next meeting may start up to 15 minutes earlier than the noticed start time. Sessions will not vary from the times noticed by more than 15 minutes.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: The NSB Office contact is Christopher Blair, cblair@nsf.gov, 703–292–7000. The NSB Public Affairs contact is Nadine Lymn, nlymn@nsf.gov, 703–292–2490. Please refer to the NSB website for additional information: <https://www.nsf.gov/nsb>.

Ann E. Bushmiller,

Senior Legal Counsel to the National Science Board.

[FR Doc. 2025–02445 Filed 2–6–25; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 7555–01–P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Nos. CP2024–105; MC2025–1168 and K2025–1168; MC2025–1170 and K2025–1170]

New Postal Products

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is noticing a recent Postal Service filing for the Commission's consideration concerning a negotiated service agreement. This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due:* February 12, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <https://www.prc.gov>. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202–789–6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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- I. Introduction
- II. Public Proceeding(s)
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I. Introduction

Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405, the Commission gives notice that the Postal Service filed request(s) for the Commission to consider matters related to Competitive negotiated service agreement(s). The request(s) may propose the addition of a negotiated service agreement from the Competitive product list or the modification of an existing product currently appearing on the Competitive product list.

The public portions of the Postal Service's request(s) can be accessed via the Commission's website (<http://www.prc.gov>). Non-public portions of the Postal Service's request(s), if any, can be accessed through compliance with the requirements of 39 CFR 3011.301.¹

Section II identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, that will be reviewed in a public proceeding as defined by 39 CFR 3010.101(p), the title of each such request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request. For each such request, the Commission appoints an officer of the Commission to represent the interests of the general public in the proceeding, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505 and 39 CFR 3000.114 (Public Representative). Section II also establishes comment deadline(s) pertaining to each such request.

The Commission invites comments on whether the Postal Service's request(s) identified in Section II, if any, are consistent with the policies of title 39. Applicable statutory and regulatory requirements include 39 U.S.C. 3632, 39 U.S.C. 3633, 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR part 3035, and 39 CFR part 3041. Comment deadline(s) for each such request, if any, appear in Section II.

Section III identifies the docket number(s) associated with each Postal Service request, if any, to add a standardized distinct product to the Competitive product list or to amend a standardized distinct product, the title of each such request, the request's acceptance date, and the authority cited by the Postal Service for each request.

¹ See Docket No. RM2018–3, Order Adopting Final Rules Relating to Non-Public Information, June 27, 2018, Attachment A at 19–22 (Order No. 4679).

Standardized distinct products are negotiated service agreements that are variations of one or more Competitive products, and for which financial models, minimum rates, and classification criteria have undergone advance Commission review. See 39 CFR 3041.110(n); 39 CFR 3041.205(a). Such requests are reviewed in summary proceedings pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.325(c)(2) and 39 CFR 3041.505(f)(1). Pursuant to 39 CFR 3041.405(c)–(d), the Commission does not appoint a Public Representative or request public comment in proceedings to review such requests.

II. Public Proceeding(s)

1. *Docket No(s):* CP2024–105; *Filing Title:* USPS Request Concerning Amendment One to Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 134, with Material Filed Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* February 4, 2025; *Filing Authority:* 39 CFR 3035.105 and 39 CFR 3041.505; *Public Representative:* Christopher Mohr; *Comments Due:* February 12, 2025.

2. *Docket No(s):* MC2025–1168 and K2025–1168; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express International, Priority Mail International & First-Class Package International Service Contract 56 to Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* February 4, 2025; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Katalin Clendenin; *Comments Due:* February 12, 2025.

3. *Docket No(s):* MC2025–1170 and K2025–1170; *Filing Title:* USPS Request to Add Priority Mail & USPS Ground Advantage Contract 612 to the Competitive Product List and Notice of Filing Materials Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date:* February 4, 2025; *Filing Authority:* 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3035.105, and 39 CFR 3041.310; *Public Representative:* Elsie Lee-Robbins; *Comments Due:* February 12, 2025.

III. Summary Proceeding(s)

None. See Section II for public proceedings.

This Notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Erica A. Barker,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2025–02424 Filed 2–7–25; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710–FW–P