



DRAFT AUTHORIZATION FRAMEWORK FOR THE USE OF AMATEUR RADIO IN NIGERIA

1. Introduction

The Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) is in the process of granting authorization or licence to qualified persons/companies who are interested in amateur radio services and amateur satellite services for the purposes of non-commercial exchange of messages, intercommunication, self-training, private recreation , wireless experimentation ,technical investigations etc.

2. Objectives of the Authorization

The main objectives of granting an amateur and amateur-satellite service authorization or licence is to ensure interference-free operation by all users of the Band and optimal utilization of the band, as well as to set out the usage rights of the licensee.

3. Scope and Operation

The purpose of this document is to provide a clear and comprehensive outline for amateur radio operations in Nigeria. It shall describe, among other things, the authorizations rules, standards, important procedures and operating limits for amateur operations.

In the event of any inconsistencies between this framework and the Nigerian communications Act, 2003 or Regulations, the provisions of the Act or applicable Regulations shall take precedence.

4. Eligibility Criteria

Eligible persons who may apply for Amateur Radio Licenses are:

- a) Be over Eighteen years of age
- b) Be technically competent to operate Amateur Radio Station in line with ITU-R M.1544, which covers the basic skills required of an Amateur Operator.
- c) Has passed the written examination and the practical Morse code test conducted by the Commission or a recognized authority in another country.

5. Type of Amateur Radio service Licenses

The types of licenses issued by the Commission for Amateur Radio are:

- (a) A Novice Class Amateur Authorization; or
- (b) A General Class Amateur Authorization; or
- (c) A Advanced Class Amateur Authorization.

A Novice Class Amateur Radio Authorization is the most basic Amateur Radio Authorization available to the individual operator to introduce him/her to the hobby. Privileges include four bands in the HF range, one band in the VHF range (30-300 MHz), and one band in the UHF range (300-3,000 MHz).

General Class Amateur Radio Authorization: For this class of license, the operator is required to have extensive knowledge of amateur radio theory and the corresponding practical skills.

The Advanced Class Amateur Radio Authorization: is the highest authorization available. The operator is required to have an extensive practical skills, in keeping with the privileges associated with the General Class Amateur Radio Authorization, which would create a solid foundation for the skills and operating privileges associated with the Advanced Class Amateur Radio Authorization.

6. Application Process

- a. The Use of Amateur Radio Station without an appropriate license is an offence and punishable under the Act.
- b. Applicant wishing to obtain an authorization to use an Amateur Radio shall download and complete an application form from the Commission's website www.ncc.gov.ng. **Spectrum Administration Application form.**
- c. The applicant shall pay a non-refundable application fee of One Thousand Naira (~~₦~~1,000.00) only through the Central Bank of Nigeria Remita payment platform.

- d. This application shall be submitted along with the following documents:
1. A copy of the certificate of incorporation of the company from the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC)
 2. One (1) passport sized photographs each of Two (2) authorized representatives.
 3. Technical details of the proposed equipment(s)
 4. A copy of the receipt for application fees. (N1000.00)
- e. Foreign Applicant who hold an authorization to operate an amateur radio station shall be issued a licence to operate an amateur radio station while in Nigeria. The applicant can apply for the period of stay in Nigeria not exceeding one year.
- f. Upon receipt of the application, the Commission shall:
1. Issue a receipt in respect of the application fees paid.
 2. Acknowledge receipt of the application.
 3. Examine the application together with the attachments to determine the eligibility of the applicant for an amateur licence.
 - For applicants who are Nigerian citizens, the Commission shall ascertain their technical qualifications and if satisfied, proceeds with the processing of the application. The applicant is informed accordingly if the application is successful or not.
 - For foreign applicants, the Commission will liaise with their home country licensing authorities to ascertain validity of the documents submitted to support proof of their level of competence. Once confirmation is received, the Commission shall determine the equivalent Amateur licence type to be issued and consequently advise the applicant whether the application is successful or not.
- g. The Commission shall notify the applicant regarding the frequency fee to be

paid. The applicant shall pay the frequency fee of Ten Thousand Naira (N10,000.00) only and shall, if not already type-approved, present to the Commission the radio equipment for type-approval.

- h. As soon as the applicant pays the frequency fee and the equipment is type approved, the Commission shall prepare the relevant amateur licence or authorization. The amateur licence shall contain details of licence type, details of eligible frequency bands and conditions of the licence. In addition, a certificate that is valid for a period of one year is prepared for each of these two amateur categories. With respect to applications for novice/student amateurs, the Commission shall grant in writing, valid for a period of one year for certain selected frequencies.
- i. Application for renewal of licences shall be forwarded to the Commission one month prior to expiration of same.
- j. The radio frequencies for Amateur services is as stated in the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Radio regulation for the use of Amateur Radio Novice/General and advanced. The Commission may change these allocations in keeping with the international obligations made to ITU

7. Examinations

The commission may grant authorization for amateur services to applicants who pass the Commission's-approved examination, which shall cover technical and theoretical knowledge of radio regulations. The examination to be administered will be based on the class of licence applied for and in accordance with the level of skills required. The essence of the examination is to enable the Commission ascertain the level of knowledge and skills of the operations of amateur radio services by applicant.

8. Licence Fees

To qualify for the grant of a licence for Amateur Radio Operations by the Commission, the applicant shall pay the following fees:

1. Application fees upon submission of Application for amateur radio licence
2. Licence fee for the duration of licence
3. Examination fee (to be determined by the Commission) to register to sit for an amateur radio examination.

9. Authorization Processing Time

The Commission will process an application for Amateur Radio licence within 30 days upon receipt of a duly completed application form and evidence of payment of specified fees, provided also that the applicant has passed the mandatory Morse Proficiency Test administered by the Commission.

10. Approval Frequency bands, modes of operation and power limit

Certain operating privileges are attached to different classes of licence in line with ITU Regulations. These privileges are defined in terms of frequency segment and mode of operation for those bands with their corresponding power limits.