

Renewing a Broadcast License

- The renewal process begins by applying no less than 4 months before expiration of the license.
- Stations must begin making on-air announcements of their intent to renew no less than 6 months prior to the expiration of the license.
- The announcements invite the public to submit comments or register formal complaints with the FCC by a certain date.
- Of particular interest during this renewal period is the station's public inspection file, which contains, among other things:
 1. a copy of the renewal application,
 2. a copy of the station's current FCC license,
 3. technical maps,
 4. ownership report,
 5. employment records,
 6. list of programming that discussed local issues, etc.
- The public inspection file is available for inspection during normal business hours.
- The FCC does conduct a full investigation of every licensee, so public comment is crucial.
- However, the FCC may deny renewal for many infractions such as failing to follow proper renewal procedures, lying to the FCC, unauthorized transfer of a license, etc.