



## About Music Licensing

If you use commercial music in your business, it's essential to understand the intricacies of music licensing. Music plays a vital role in shaping your brand, it sets the tone and elevates the overall customer experience. However, playing music in public spaces, or broadcasting and streaming it without the appropriate license, can result in legal issues and significant fines.

This is where the **ASSOCIATION OF CREATORS PUBLISHER OF SRI LANKA (ACPOSL)** comes in. As a non-profit organization representing music authors, composers, and publishers, ACPOSL ensures that creators receive fair royalties for their work. By obtaining an ACPOSL license, you can legally use commercial music and avoid the risk of copyright infringement.

On behalf of its members, **ACPOSL** grants licenses, formal written authorizations that permit the use of music from its extensive repertoire. These are typically blanket licenses or per-song basis, available for a reasonable annual or usage-based fee, which allow businesses to comply with the provisions of the Copyright Act.

## Why it is Important to take a License

Music is an inseparable part of our lives. Whether it's a celebration, event, function, or venue, music is almost always present. By obtaining an **ACPOSL license**, you ensure that the lyricists, composers, and publishers, those who dedicate their lives to creating the music we enjoy, receive the royalties they rightfully deserve.

**ACPOSL licenses** offer several key benefits:

- They cover a wide range of musical works from both local and international repertoires.
- They are designed to meet diverse music usage needs across industries and settings.
- They provide a straightforward and affordable way to access performance and certain reproduction rights in musical works.
- They ensure that songwriters, composers, and music publishers are fairly compensated for the use of their creations.

An **ACPOSL license** is legally required for any public performance or communication to the public of copyrighted music under its control. This requirement applies regardless of the type of venue, nature of the entertainment, or whether an admission fee is charged.

It is important to note that **ACPOSL** only collects and distributes royalties on behalf of its registered author and composer members. If a publisher or rights owner is not affiliated with ACPOSL, the organization does not issue licenses or collect royalties on their behalf, except for the share belonging to its author/composer members, subject to appropriate payment clearance.

## Who needs to take a License

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## Documentation Required for License

To obtain a music license in Sri Lanka, the following documents and information are generally required:

### For Individuals or Sole Proprietors:

- Personal details: Name, address, nationality
- Business details: Nature and scope of operations
- A detailed list of the types of music that will be played (e.g., recorded, live, streaming, background)
- Nic / Passport
- Proof of address (any one of the following):
  - Utility bill
  - Driver's license

### For LLPs or Registered Business Entities:

In addition to the documents listed above, LLPs or other registered entities must also provide:

- Certificate of Incorporation
- Business Registration Number or TIN
- VAT or GST Registration Certificate (if applicable)
- Official address proof of the business premises