

SCHEDULE III

BELIZE BROADCASTING & TELEVISION ACT

REVISED EDITION 2020, Amended 2020 (Act #16)

Revised Schedule of Terms and Conditions for Cable License

(revised as of Dec.31, 2020)

1. The Licensee shall commence operations within 4 months of the date of the letter notifying him/her/the company of the license and the licensee shall so inform the BBA in writing. Licensees who do not become operational within this period must request an extension for up to 2 additional months or risk forfeiture of license. Licenses are non-transferable and a licensee who intends to cease operation or change ownership **MUST** inform the Board in writing and advise the new owner to reapply. The new owner shall not commence operation until such time as he has obtained a licence from the Belize Broadcasting Authority. Recommendation for approval of the license shall not be unnecessarily withheld.
2. The Licensee is required to display a copy of his/her/its license in a conspicuous manner at his/her/its principal place of business.
3. The maximum number of channels to be provided to subscribers shall be determined by the cable operator and his/her/its copyright agreement/s.
4. A minimum of 2 or 10% (whichever is higher) of the channels provided shall be educational. News channels shall be included in the term “educational.”
5. If there is a local on-air television signal available in the Licensee’s area of cable operations, the Licensee must cause that signal to be carried (Must Carry Rule), on a cable channel.
6. Live or Recorded radio programming is not allowed on Cable EXCEPT, if the cable operator so desires, on the cable’s public access channel, which is limited to one such channel per cable operation: that is, a cable operator may elect to designate only ONE of his/her/its channels as a public access channel. The cable operator is not authorized to solicit commercial advertising for its public access channel, EXCEPT in such cases as the cable operator chooses to cause localized events to be shown on its public access channel if such localized events are not on-air accessible or are not being covered by on-air accessible stations. Cable operators also cannot solicit advertising for any other cable channel; thus, advertisements/messages on other cable channels must be a part of the programming that is being carried.
7. The cable operator is liable for all content carried on its public access channel if he/she/it so chooses to have a public access channel and the cable operator

shall maintain monitoring devices in its studios to ensure continuous recording of all programs aired (no exceptions) for a period of fifteen days from the date of first broadcasting. The on-air TV operator is liable for all content carried on cable via the Must Carry rule in (5) above.

8. The Licensee shall obtain an importation permit from the Public Utilities Commission for the importation of any equipment or apparatus to be utilized in the cable broadcasting operation. Frequency authorization needs to be applied for each receive-only earth station (dish) the operator acquires. The Licensee shall comply with all other relevant laws and regulations in the conduct of his/her/its operations including (without limitation) obtaining all such permits as are required for the importation and operation of fixtures, machinery and equipment.
9. The Licensee shall obtain from all relevant authorities, persons or entities for the use of their facilities and shall comply with all conditions and covenants stipulated by such authorities, persons or entities as agreed upon by all parties.
10. The Licensee shall exercise care and discretion to ensure that subscribers have the option of blocking channels which include material that may be construed as lewd, perverse or sexually explicit, or which promotes lauds, encourages or incites crime and public disorder. R and N-rated (whether by way of violence, language or nudity) movies and programs shall be restricted to the hours 8:00 p.m. – 6:00 a.m. The Licensee should therefore make parental control boxes available to subscribers and encourage their use or provide the service of showing subscribers how to program their V-chip until such time as the industry may allow for cable package options.
11. The Licensee shall maintain a register of all subscribers, including date of commencement of subscription. Any access to such information shall be released through the Belize Cable Television Operators Association.
12. The Licensee shall maintain at his/hers/its office a current listing of all television channels used, noting carriers and sub-carriers, types of modulation and maximum peak power which occurs at any location within the distribution system. The maximum peak power shall be tested and noted at least once every calendar year.
13. The Licensee shall ensure that all technical specifications of his/her/its equipment remain within the manufacturers prescribed limits of tolerance so as to deliver the highest quality reception to subscribers. Signal levels shall be maintained between 0 and +10 DBMV at the premises of the Subscriber.
14. The Licensee shall ensure that harmful interference due to leakage in the Cable System is removed or kept to a minimum in order to avoid degradation of the system.

15. Having regard to the objective of promoting harmony and fair competition in the industry the Licensee shall be prohibited from damaging or in any way interfering with the fixtures, equipment, materials or connections of any other Licensee.
16. Upon termination by a subscriber of his subscription in accordance with paragraph 12, the Licensee could remove at the discretion of the licensee or request of the subscriber the cable and other equipment or materials installed between the subscriber's premises and the Licensee's cable system.
17. Subscription fees shall be at such rates as are prescribed from time to time by the Authority in compliance with the Belize Cable Television Operators Association.
18. The Chairperson, other members of the Belize Broadcasting Authority and the Administrative Secretary, thereof, shall have the right to visit and inspect the Licensee's premises of operation at any time during normal working hours with a 48-hour notice.
19. The Licensee shall observe the copyright laws in force in Belize.
20. Cable Operators, through their association, must contribute to the development of local programming. The minimum contribution at this point in the industry's development is the Must carry rule (see#5), and this minimum may be revised at the Board's discretion.
21. The Minister reserve the right to amend any conditions herein upon providing a minimum of ninety days notice, provided that any such amended conditions shall equally apply to all Licensees in the same category without discrimination and provided further that before amending any condition, the Minister shall use his or her best endeavors to secure the agreement of the affected Licensee(s) to such amendment.
22. Failure to comply with any or all Terms and Conditions can result in fines and/or non-renewal of licence as per Section 10 of the Belize Broadcasting and Television Act.