



BAYCOM

**THE VALUE OF
FCC LICENSING:
IT'S NOT JUST
THE LAW.
IT'S GOOD FOR
BUSINESS.**

HASSLE-FREE FCC LICENSING: **BAYCOM HELPS YOU.**

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requires all commercial radio users to file for a license to use a specific frequency within a defined geographic area. The reason is simple: By licensing frequencies, the FCC can better ensure the most efficient use of radio bands since there is only so much frequency bandwidth that's available. Licensing is required for both public safety and non-public safety radio users.

It's possible that, in the past, you may have purchased pre-programmed radios without an FCC license. While the entity selling those units did not require you to purchase a license, you were likely still in violation of federal law. Because BAYCOM is a licensed entity, we require our customers to show proof of a valid FCC license before we program any radio units.

FCC licensing is not just the law, however. It's also good for business.



Licensing helps to ensure communications reliability.

When you pick up a two-way radio to initiate a conversation, you expect it to work, don't you? You expect to have a clear and dedicated channel available to you—without interference from someone else's conversation, and without you running the risk of interfering in theirs. FCC licensing helps to ensure that reliability.

When you register with the FCC, you are essentially "leasing" the frequency from the federal government, which gives you exclusive rights to operate on that frequency within a defined geographic area. This won't necessarily stop someone else from illegally encroaching on that frequency in your neighborhood, but it does give you legal protection if that happens. The squatter could be fined up to \$10,000 for operating without an FCC license.



Licensing helps to ensure safety.

By having a reliable, dedicated communications channel, you can better protect your employees, your customers and your community. The last thing you want in an emergency situation is to have an unauthorized person interfering with (or listening in on) critical communications.

- On a construction site, a crane operator will have an uninterrupted line of communication with his colleague in the bucket truck.
- In a food storage facility, the employee who must work within a sub-zero freezer will have an open line to the outside in case of emergency.
- In a manufacturing plant, a machinist who's working with dangerous chemicals may feel more confident in knowing he has a reliable communications lifeline.



Licensing helps to protect privacy.

Obtaining a specific frequency also helps provide an element of privacy. Licensed frequencies are encrypted, which minimizes the risk that unauthorized people with scanners can eavesdrop on conversations.

- Hospitals can better ensure compliance with HIPAA privacy requirements.
- Schools can rest assured that teacher or student names won't be broadcast to the public.
- Manufacturers can protect system configurations, processes or trade secrets.

WHY WORK WITH BAYCOM TO OBTAIN FCC LICENSING?

We do the work so you don't have to.

There's a lot of paperwork involved in obtaining an FCC license. We have licensing experts on staff who work on behalf of our customers to manage every aspect of the process.

- We do a geographic survey to see what frequencies are already being used in your particular area, and then select one that will not interfere with them.
- We file the license application with the FCC on your behalf. All we need is your Tax ID number and a few other pieces of information.
- Once the license application and frequency is approved, we program the radios. So all you need to do is turn them on and start talking.

We provide ongoing support.

We live where our customers are – in cities and towns across the Midwest. That means we'll always be close by to respond to issues that may arise, provide service when needed and help you manage and maintain your radios and FCC compliance.

- If your needs or priorities change, we're here to help you upgrade, add more radios or secure additional frequencies. Just call us. We'll take care of everything.
- If an unauthorized person encroaches on your licensed frequency, let us know. We'll find out where it's coming from and call on our legal experts to mitigate the problem or escalate the issue to the FCC.
- If your company name changes or ownership transfers, we'll manage updating the license information.
- If you're installing bi-directional amplifiers, you'll need to update your FCC license. We'll make all the required notifications.
- When it's time to renew your licenses, we'll manage that for you, too.

We help protect you from fraud.

Whenever a new FCC license is approved or renewed, the information is posted publicly on the FCC website—a potential gold mine of leads for predatory companies to exploit. We're well aware of the tactics used by these companies and work with our customers to make sure they don't fall victim.

In much of the fraudulent activity, predators will suggest, for example, that you are required by law to have a \$500 copy of the FCC rules on site. You are not. But their approach is sophisticated, using company names that look and sound legitimate. We'll help you understand what to look for, so you can protect yourself from would-be thieves.

WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Please call us at 800-726-5426 or
visit us at BAYCOMINC.com



BAYCOM

A Lifeline in the Moments that Matter

To schedule a needs assessment or product demonstration,
please contact your BAYCOM representative.

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