The State is required to enter into an agreement with Copyright Agency each year for copyright.

The agreement makes payment for the State’s use of certain copyright material owned by third parties.

This fact sheet provides information on departments’ rights, responsibilities and costs under the agreement.

Background

Under the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth), the State is required to pay Copyright Agency for the use of certain works containing third party copyright material. Copyright Agency in turn distributes payments to copyright owners.

The Whole of Victorian Government agreement with Copyright Agency is managed by the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF). All departments are bound by the agreement.

Cost of agreement

For the 2016-17 and 2017-18 periods departments are required to pay an annual licence fee of $7.30 per Full-time Equivalent (FTE) employee. This is a flat rate that applies to all employees regardless of their role or use of copyright material.

The FTE figure allows Copyright Agency to calculate each department’s liability and issue invoices.

Independent statutory bodies and bodies established by the Government with separate legal identity are not required to be included in departmental FTE figures. DTF will contact these bodies directly.

What copyright material is covered?

Under the agreement, departments’ liability for copying a wide range of copyright materials, including text and images, has been paid.

The agreement covers copyright material such as books, journal articles, reports, letters, emails and many online materials.

It does **not** cover:

* computer programs;
* survey plans;
* sound recordings;
* broadcasts and video, including radio and television, refer to the Screenrights fact sheet; and
* material already licensed by subscription, e.g. news clippings.

What uses are covered?

The agreement provides for **copying and the internal use** of copyright materials covered by the agreement, provided it is for the services of the State. This includes; photocopying, printing, saving material to a hard drive, internal emails and posting copies to an intranet.

The agreement **does not cover** making material available to the public (for example uploading material to the internet or emailing copies to external parties) and some other exclusions apply. Departments should refer to the agreement for specific details. To request a copy please contact DTF.

Contact us

To discuss the Copyright Agency agreement or other copyright matters contact DTF’s IP Policy team on 9651 2455 or email IPpolicy@dtf.vic.gov.au