

Register your Copyrights NOW to avoid U. S. filing fee increase!

CopyrightTips *from experts* at CopyrightsNow.com*

Alert: U. S. Copyright filing fees increase on 1.5.27*

If you're planning to register your copyrights this year… now is your chance to lock-in current rates and avoid increased fees!

What Happened?

On 14 July 2026 the Register of Copyrights, submitted a new fee structure to Congress, under section 708(b) of Title 17, and unless Congress enacts a law to reject fees within 120 days – the new fees to be effective on 1.5.27*.

The Copyright Office indicates: *"To maintain fiscally responsible operations at a level commensurate with stakeholder demand, and because copyright registration and recordation are voluntary under U.S. law, the Office sought to set fees that allow us to maintain quality services while continuing to encourage active participation in the copyright system."*

What this means for Authors, Creators and Publishers?

For Self-Published Authors and Publishers

- Most copyright registrations use the 'Standard Application' filing fee – which increases from **$65 to $85** — a 31% increase + processing fees***
- Paper-based applications hike more sharply, from **$125 to $185 per copyright application** — a 48% increase + processing fees***

  **See Proposed Schedule and Analysis of Copyright Fees… for a complete list of fee changes)*

Click here for Time-Sensitive Action Items to Avoid Increase!

Self-Publishers – Action Items:
Do Now to Avoid Filing Fee Increase!

- Register as 'unpublished' or 'published' using CopyrightsNow® to expedite filing to lock-in lower fees!

- Review your creative projects to what you can file now to avoid the higher fee. Even if your final manuscript is not ready, if you file your application and pay the filing fee you lock in the rate (*see disclaimers)

- To avoid the price increase, self-publishers, rights owners and creators can register their works as 'unpublished' (if not yet published) and pay the filing fee before the deadline to lock in lower fees… then upload your manuscript when ready; the registration usually covers your book when published (**see disclaimers)

** 'Published' version must be identical to the 'Unpublished' version *(i.e., the same material, same authors, and claimants).* If the published version includes new material or new contributors, a separate copyright registration should be filed to cover those changes.

Volume Publishers – Action Items:
Do Now to Avoid Filing Fee Increase!

1) Use CopyrightsNow® to expedite filing registrations on behalf of your Authors & Clients

- File as 'Unpublished' or 'Published' (with manuscript, art and photos)

- Mitigates Risk for your publishing packages

- **Defends against AI Training!** – ensuring that each published work has a valid copyright that is protected and enforceable.

Note: You must register copyrights before any infringement occurs to be included in settlements.***

2) Check company owned publications and backlist for current registrations -- if you don't have them… File Now!

- File updated registrations now -- before any copyright infringement or AI-Training occurs!

- Mitigates Risk – ensuring that each title has a valid copyright that is protected and enforceable**

- Protect your work from AI-training and unauthorized use and enable recovery of money damages from copyright settlements ****

- Review publishing contracts -- see who is responsible for registering copyrights... then follow-up to get it registered now.

- File Bulk -- if you have a bulk list of projects needing registration (in database or spreadsheets, XML, CSV, or ONIX files), Copyrights-EXPress® AI - a new patented service – can interface with your existing files and extract copyright registration data, transform and electronically file with USCO eCO for fast and efficient U. S. Copyright registrations. (https://www.Copyrights-EXPress.com)

Sound confusing? *Rest Easy…* By using a copyright preparation tool like CopyrightsNow® or Copyrights-EXPress®… the system performs extensive edits and validates your application with AI algorithms… then each application is **personally reviewed by a 'human' Specialist within 48-hrs** to minimize potential issues which may cause delays or rejection by the USCO. CopyrightsNow also provides AI-assisted On-line HELP on each screen with 'Tips', procedures and detailed data descriptions.

To start your copyright protection, click to learn more about registration NOW!

Note: These are general guidelines… your situation may be different, so always consult with your IP attorney for specific legal advice.

The information contained in this post and software application are believed to be accurate at the time of publication; however, copyright regulations change and subject to various interpretations… so always consult with a personal attorney for legal advice.

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** Actual date of revised copyright fees is subject to change without prior notice, based Congress action and/or decisions by U. S. Copyright Office*

See Proposed Schedule and Analysis of Copyright Fees to Go into Effect in Fall 2026
https://www.copyright.gov/rulemaking/feestudy2026/proposed-fee-schedule.pdf

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**** CopyrightsNow® processing fees have not changed, as of now. Your total cost is processing fee + gov't filing fee. We provide context-sensitive on-line help on each screen to provide more detailed information on how to fill-out the data-fields and recommended solutions for common situations, and 'Specialist Review' of each application within 48-hours to speed up the registration process.*

***** Recent AI-Training copyright settlements required that the infringed works have been registered within 3 months of publication, OR within 5 years of publication and before the infringement date. As you may know, over 92% of authors who were infringed in the recent Anthropic $1.5 billion settlement -- can't recover a cent -- because they did not have a valid copyright registration! Don't let this happen to you! See article: https://authorsguild.org/advocacy/artificial-intelligence/what-authors-need-to-know-about-the-anthropic-settlement*

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