

Subpart E—Aural Broadcast Auxiliary Stations

§ 74.501 Classes of aural broadcast auxiliary stations.

(a) *Aural broadcast STL station.* A fixed station for the transmission of aural program material between the studio and the transmitter of a broadcasting station other than an international broadcasting station.

(b) *Aural broadcast intercity relay (ICR) station.* A fixed station for the transmission of aural program material between radio broadcast stations, other than international broadcast stations, between FM radio broadcast stations and their co-owned FM booster stations, between noncommercial educational FM radio stations and their co-owned noncommercial educational FM translator stations assigned to reserved channels (Channels 201 to 220), between FM radio stations and FM translator stations operating within the coverage contour of their primary stations, or for such other purposes as authorized in § 74.531.

(c) *Aural broadcast microwave booster station.* A fixed station in the broadcast auxiliary service that receives and amplifies signals of an aural broadcast STL or intercity relay station and retransmits them on the same frequency.

[28 FR 13716, Dec. 14, 1963, as amended at 49 FR 7129, Feb. 27, 1984; 53 FR 4169, Feb. 12, 1988; 55 FR 50692, Dec. 10, 1990; 57 FR 41111, Sept. 9, 1992]

§ 74.502 Frequency assignment.

(a) Except as provided in NG30, broadcast auxiliary stations licensed as of November 21, 1984, to operate in the band 942–944 MHz¹ may continue to operate on a co-equal, primary basis to other stations and services operating in the band in accordance with the Table of Frequency Allocations. These stations will be protected from possible interference caused by new users of the

band by the technical standards specified in § 101.105(c)(2).

(b) The frequency band 944–952 MHz is available for assignment to aural STL and ICR stations. One or more of the following 25 kHz segments may be stacked to form a channel which may be assigned with a maximum authorized bandwidth of 300 kHz except as noted in the following Table. The channel, will be assigned by its center frequency, channel bandwidth, and emission designator. The following frequencies are the centers of individual segments. When stacking an even number of segments, the center frequency specified will deviate from the following frequencies in that it should correspond to the actual center of stacked channels. When stacking an odd number of channels, the center frequency specified will correspond to one of the following frequencies.

944.0125,	944.0375,	944.0625,	944.0875,	944.1125,
944.1375,	944.1625,	944.1875,	944.2125,	944.2375,
944.2625,	944.2875,	944.3125,	944.3375,	944.3625,
944.3875,	944.4125,	944.4375,	944.4625,	944.4875,
944.5125,	944.5375,	944.5625,	944.5875,	944.6125,
944.6375,	944.6625,	944.6875,	944.7125,	944.7375,
944.7625,	944.7875,	944.8125,	944.8375,	944.8625,
944.8875,	944.9125,	944.9375,	944.9625,	944.9875,
945.0125,	945.0375,	945.0625,	945.0875,	945.1125,
945.1375,	945.1625,	945.1875,	945.2125,	945.2375,
945.2625,	945.2875,	945.3125,	945.3375,	945.3625,
945.3875,	945.4125,	945.4375,	945.4625,	945.4875,
945.5125,	945.5375,	945.5625,	945.5875,	945.6125,
945.6375,	945.6625,	945.6875,	945.7125,	945.7375,
945.7625,	945.7875,	945.8125,	945.8375,	945.8625,
945.8875,	945.9125,	945.9375,	945.9625,	945.9875,
946.0125,	946.0375,	946.0625,	946.0875,	946.1125,
946.1375,	946.1625,	946.1875,	946.2125,	946.2375,
946.2625,	946.2875,	946.3125,	946.3375,	946.3625,
946.3875,	946.4125,	946.4375,	946.4625,	946.4875,
946.5125,	946.5375,	946.5625,	946.5875,	946.6125,
946.6375,	946.6625,	946.6875,	946.7125,	946.7375,
946.7625,	946.7875,	946.8125,	946.8375,	946.8625,
946.8875,	946.9125,	946.9375,	946.9625,	946.9875,
947.0125,	947.0375,	947.0625,	947.0875,	947.1125,
947.1375,	947.1625,	947.1875,	947.2125,	947.2375,
947.2625,	947.2875,	947.3125,	947.3375,	947.3625,
947.3875,	947.4125,	947.4375,	947.4625,	947.4875,
947.5125,	947.5375,	947.5625,	947.5875,	947.6125,
947.6375,	947.6625,	947.6875,	947.7125,	947.7375,
947.7625,	947.7875,	947.8125,	947.8375,	947.8625,
947.8875,	947.9125,	947.9375,	947.9625,	947.9875,
948.0125,	948.0375,	948.0625,	948.0875,	948.1125,
948.1375,	948.1625,	948.1875,	948.2125,	948.2375,
948.2625,	948.2875,	948.3125,	948.3375,	948.3625,
948.3875,	948.4125,	948.4375,	948.4625,	948.4875,
948.5125,	948.5375,	948.5625,	948.5875,	948.6125,
948.6375,	948.6625,	948.6875,	948.7125,	948.7375,
948.7625,	948.7875,	948.8125,	948.8375,	948.8625,
948.8875,	948.9125,	948.9375,	948.9625,	948.9875,

¹NOTE: In addition to this band, stations in Puerto Rico may continue to be authorized on 942.5, 943.0, 943.5, 944.0 MHz in the band 942–944 MHz on a primary basis to stations and services operating in accordance with the Table of Frequency Allocations.

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949.0125, 949.0375, 949.0625, 949.0875, 949.1125, 949.1375, 949.1625, 949.1875, 949.2125, 949.2375, 949.2625, 949.2875, 949.3125, 949.3375, 949.3625, 949.3875, 949.4125, 949.4375, 949.4625, 949.4875, 949.5125, 949.5375, 949.5625, 949.5875, 949.6125, 949.6375, 949.6625, 949.6875, 949.7125, 949.7375, 949.7625, 949.7875, 949.8125, 949.8375, 949.8625, 949.8875, 949.9125, 949.9375, 949.9625, 949.9875, 950.0125, 950.0375, 950.0625, 950.0875, 950.1125, 950.1375, 950.1625, 950.1875, 950.2125, 950.2375, 950.2625, 950.2875, 950.3125, 950.3375, 950.3625, 950.3875, 950.4125, 950.4375, 950.4625, 950.4875, 950.5125, 950.5375, 950.5625, 950.5875, 950.6125, 950.6375, 950.6625, 950.6875, 950.7125, 950.7375, 950.7625, 950.7875, 950.8125, 950.8375, 950.8625, 950.8875, 950.9125, 950.9375, 950.9625, 950.9875, 951.0125, 951.0375, 951.0625, 951.0875, 951.1125, 951.1375, 951.1625, 951.1875, 951.2125, 951.2375, 951.2625, 951.2875, 951.3125, 951.3375, 951.3625, 951.3875, 951.4125, 951.4375, 951.4625, 951.4875, 951.5125, 951.5375, 951.5625, 951.5875, 951.6125, 951.6375, 951.6625, 951.6875, 951.7125, 951.7375, 951.7625, 951.7875, 951.8125, 951.8375, 951.8625, 951.8875, 951.9125, 951.9375, 951.9625, 951.9875.

(1) A single broadcast station may be authorized up to a maximum of twenty segments (500 kHz total bandwidth) for transmission of program material between a single origin and one or more designations. The station may lease excess capacity for broadcast and other uses on a secondary basis, subject to availability of spectrum for broadcast use. However, an FM station licensed for twelve or fewer segments (300 kHz total bandwidth) or an AM station licensed for eight or fewer segments (200 kHz total bandwidth) may lease excess capacity for broadcast and other uses on a primary basis.

(2) An applicant (new or modification of existing license) may assume the cost of replacement of one or more existing licensees equipment with narrowband equipment of comparable capabilities and quality in order to make available spectrum for its facilities. Existing licensees must accept such replacement without cost to them except upon a showing that the replacement equipment does not meet the capability or quality requirements.

(c) Aural broadcast STL and intercity relay stations that were licensed or had applications pending before the Commission as of September 18, 1998 may continue those operations in the band 18,760–18,820 and 19,100–19,160 MHz on a shared co-primary basis with other services under parts 21, 25, and 101 of this chapter until June 8, 2010.

Prior to June 8, 2010, such stations are subject to relocation by licensees in the fixed-satellite service. Such relocation is subject to the provisions of §§101.85 through 101.97 of this chapter. After June 8, 2010, such operations are not entitled to protection from fixed-satellite service operations and must not cause unacceptable interference to fixed-satellite service station operations. No applications for new licenses will be accepted in these bands after June 8, 2000.

(1)(i) 5 MHz maximum authorized bandwidth channels:

Transmit (receive) (MHz)	Receive (transmit) (MHz)
340 MHz Separation	
18762.5	19102.5
18767.5	19107.5
18772.5	19112.5
18777.5	19117.5
18782.5	19122.5
18787.5	19127.5
18792.5	19132.5
18797.5	19137.5
18802.5	19142.5
18807.5	19147.5
18812.5	19152.5
18817.5	19157.5

(ii) Licensees may use either a two-way link or one frequency of a frequency pair for a one-way link.

(2) [Reserved]

(d) For the coordination of all frequency assignments for fixed stations above 944 MHz, for each frequency authorized under this part, the interference protection criteria in §101.105(a), (b), and (c) of this chapter and the frequency usage coordination procedures of §101.103(d) of this chapter will apply.

(e) The use of the frequencies listed in paragraph (b) of this section by aural broadcast intercity relay stations is subject to the condition that no harmful interference is caused to other classes of stations operating in

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accordance with the Table of Frequency Allocations contained in § 2.106 of this chapter.

[28 FR 13716, Dec. 14, 1963, as amended at 48 FR 50332, Nov. 1, 1983; 49 FR 37777, Sept. 26, 1984; 50 FR 4658, Feb. 1, 1985; 50 FR 7341, Feb. 22, 1985; 50 FR 34150, Aug. 23, 1985; 50 FR 48600, Nov. 26, 1985; 54 FR 10329, Mar. 13, 1989; 54 FR 24905, June 12, 1989; 54 FR 30043, July 18, 1989; 65 FR 38325, June 20, 2000; 65 FR 54172, Sept. 7, 2000; 68 FR 12766, Mar. 17, 2003; 68 FR 16967, Apr. 8, 2003; 73 FR 25496, May 6, 2008]

§ 74.503 Frequency selection.

(a) Each application for a new station or change in an existing station shall be specific with regard to frequency. In general, the lowest suitable frequency will be assigned which, on an engineering basis, will not cause harmful interference to other stations operating in accordance with existing frequency allocations.

(b) Where it appears that interference may result from the operation of a new station or a change in the facilities of an existing station, the Commission may require a showing that harmful interference will not be caused to existing stations or that if interference will be caused the need for the proposed service outweighs the loss of service due to the interference.

[28 FR 13716, Dec. 14, 1963]

§ 74.531 Permissible service.

(a) An aural broadcast STL station is authorized to transmit aural program material between the studio and transmitter location of a broadcasting station, except an international broadcasting station, for simultaneous or delayed broadcast.

(b) An aural broadcast intercity relay station is authorized to transmit aural program material between broadcasting stations, except international broadcasting stations, for simultaneous or delayed broadcast.

(c) An aural broadcast intercity relay station is authorized to transmit aural program material between noncommercial educational FM radio stations and their co-owned noncommercial educational FM translator stations assigned to reserved channels (Channels 201 to 220) and between FM radio stations and FM translator stations operating within the coverage contour of

their primary stations. This use shall not interfere with or otherwise preclude use of these broadcast auxiliary facilities by broadcast auxiliary stations transmitting aural programming between broadcast stations as provided in paragraph (b) of this section.

(d) An aural broadcast STL or intercity relay may be used to transmit material between an FM broadcast radio station and an FM booster station owned, operated, and controlled by the licensee of the originating FM radio station. This use shall not interfere with or otherwise preclude use of these broadcast auxiliary facilities by broadcast auxiliary stations transmitting aural programming between the studio and transmitter location of a broadcast station or between broadcast stations as provided in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section.

(e) An aural broadcast microwave booster station is authorized to retransmit the signals of an aural broadcast STL or intercity relay station.

(f) Multiplexing of the STL or intercity relay transmitter may be employed to provide additional communication channels for the transmission of aural program material, news-wire teleprinter signals relaying news to be associated with main channel programming, operational communications, and material authorized to be transmitted over an FM station under a valid Subsidiary Communications Authorization (SCA). An aural broadcast STL or intercity relay station may not be operated solely for the transmission of operational, teleprinter or subsidiary communications. Operational communications include cues, orders, and other communications directly related to the operation of the broadcast station as well as special signals used for telemetry or the control of apparatus used in conjunction with the broadcasting operations.

(g) All program material, including subsidiary communications, transmitted over an aural broadcast STL or intercity relay station shall be intended for use by broadcast stations owned or under common control of the licensee or licensees of the STL or