

Federal Communications Commission

§ 73.1735

period provided an agreement thereto is reached with the other stations with which the broadcast day is shared: *And further provided*, Such operation is not in conflict with § 73.72 (Operating during the experimental period). Time-sharing agreements for operation during the experimental period need not be submitted to the FCC.

(e) Noncommercial educational FM stations are authorized for share time operation according to the provisions of § 73.561.

[43 FR 45849, Oct. 4, 1978, as amended at 47 FR 40174, Sept. 13, 1982]

§ 73.1720 Daytime.

Operation is permitted during the hours between average monthly local sunrise and average monthly local sunset.

(a) The controlling times for each month of the year are stated in the station's instrument of authorization. Uniform sunrise and sunset times are specified for all of the days of each month, based upon the actual times of sunrise and sunset for the fifteenth day of the month adjusted to the nearest quarter hour. Sunrise and sunset times are derived by using the standardized procedure and the tables in the 1946 American Nautical Almanac issued by the United States Naval Observatory.

(b) [Reserved]

[43 FR 45849, Oct. 4, 1978]

§ 73.1725 Limited time.

(a) Operation is applicable only to Class B (secondary) AM stations on a clear channel with facilities authorized before November 30, 1959. Operation of the secondary station is permitted during daytime and until local sunset if located west of the Class A station on the channel, or until local sunset at the Class A station if located east of that station. Operation is also permitted during nighttime hours not used by the Class A station or other stations on the channel.

(b) No authorization will be granted for:

- (1) A new limited time station;
- (2) A limited time station operating on a changed frequency;
- (3) A limited time station with a new transmitter site materially closer to

the 0.1 mV/m contour of a co-channel U.S. Class A station; or

(4) Modification of the operating facilities of a limited time station resulting in increased radiation toward any point on the 0.1 mV/m contour of a co-channel U.S. Class A station during the hours after local sunset in which the limited time station is permitted to operate by reason of location east of the Class A station.

(c) The licensee of a secondary station which is authorized to operate limited time and which may resume operation at the time the Class A station (or stations) on the same channel ceases operation shall, with each application for renewal of license, file in triplicate a copy of its regular operating schedule. It shall bear a signed notation by the licensee of the Class A station of its objection or lack of objection thereto. Upon approval of such operating schedule, the FCC will affix its file mark and return one copy to the licensee authorized to operate limited time. This shall be posted with the station license and considered as a part thereof. Departure from said operating schedule will be permitted only pursuant to § 73.1715 (Share time).

[56 FR 64872, Dec. 12, 1991]

§ 73.1730 Specified hours.

(a) Specified hours stations must operate in accordance with the exact hours specified in their license. However, such stations, operating on local channels, unless sharing time with other stations, may operate at hours beyond those specified in their licenses to carry special events programming. When such programs are carried during nighttime hours, the station's authorized nighttime facilities must be used.

(b) Other exceptions to the adherence to the schedule of specified hours of operation are provided in § 73.72 (Operating during the experimental period), § 73.1250 (Broadcasting emergency information) and § 73.1740 (Minimum operating schedule).

[43 FR 45850, Oct. 4, 1978]

§ 73.1735 AM station operation pre-sunrise and post-sunset.

Certain classes of AM stations are eligible to operate pre-sunrise and/or

§ 73.1740

post-sunset for specified periods with facilities other than those specified on their basic instruments of authorization. Such pre-sunrise and post-sunset operation is authorized pursuant to the provisions of § 73.99 of the Rules.

[49 FR 41249, Oct. 22, 1984]

§ 73.1740 Minimum operating schedule.

(a) All commercial broadcast stations are required to operate not less than the following minimum hours:

(1) *AM and FM stations.* Two-thirds of the total hours they are authorized to operate between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. local time and two-thirds of the total hours they are authorized to operate between 6 p.m. and midnight, local time, each day of the week except Sunday.

(i) Class D stations which have been authorized nighttime operations need comply only with the minimum requirements for operation between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., local time.

(2) *TV stations.* (i) During the first 36 months of operation, not less than 2 hours daily in any 5 broadcast days per calendar week and not less than a total of:

(A) 12 hours per week during the first 18 months.

(B) 16 hours per week during the 19th through 24th months.

(C) 20 hours per week during the 25th through 30th months.

(D) 24 hours per week during the 31st through 36th months.

(ii) After 36 months of operation, not less than 2 hours in each day of the week and not less than a total of 28 hours per calendar week.

(iii) Visual transmissions of test patterns, slides, or still pictures accompanied by unrelated aural transmissions may not be counted in computing program service (see § 73.653).

(3) "Operation" includes the period during which the station is operated pursuant to temporary authorization or program tests, as well as during the license period.

(4) In the event that causes beyond the control of a licensee make it impossible to adhere to the operating schedule of this section or to continue operating, the station may limit or discontinue operation for a period of not more than 30 days without further au-

47 CFR Ch. I (10-1-15 Edition)

thority from the FCC. Notification must be sent to the FCC in Washington, D.C. not later than the 10th day of limited or discontinued operation. During such period, the licensee shall continue to adhere to the requirements in the station license pertaining to the lighting of antenna structures. In the event normal operation is restored prior to the expiration of the 30 day period, the licensee will so notify the FCC of this date. If the causes beyond the control of the licensee make it impossible to comply within the allowed period, informal written request shall be made to the FCC no later than the 30th day for such additional time as may be deemed necessary.

(5) *Class A TV stations.* Not less than 18 hours in each day of the week.

(b) Noncommercial educational AM and TV stations are not required to operate on a regular schedule and no minimum hours of operation are specified; but the hours of actual operation during a license period shall be taken into consideration in the renewal of non-commercial educational AM and TV broadcast licenses. Noncommercial educational FM stations are subject to the operating schedule requirements according to the provisions of § 73.561.

(c) The license of any broadcasting station that fails to transmit broadcast signals for any consecutive 12-month period expires as a matter of law at the end of that period, notwithstanding any provision, term, or condition of the license to the contrary.

[43 FR 45850, Oct. 4, 1978, as amended at 53 FR 1032, Jan. 15, 1988; 56 FR 64873, Dec. 12, 1991; 61 FR 28767, June 6, 1996; 65 FR 30006, May 10, 2000]

§ 73.1745 Unauthorized operation.

(a) No broadcast station shall operate at times, or with modes or power, other than those specified and made a part of the license, unless otherwise provided in this part.

(b) Any unauthorized departure from an operating schedule which is required to be filed with the FCC in Washington, DC, will be considered as a violation of a material term of the license.

[43 FR 45850, Oct. 4, 1978]