§ 502.1 Authority and scope.


(b) Scope. This part applies to the public and all divisions of the Federal Government supervised by the Broadcasting Board of Governors under the U.S. International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (collectively “the Agency”). These regulations only cover the procedures for responding to domestic requests for Agency program materials.

(c) Summary.


(2) As stated in the U.S. International Broadcasting Act of 1994, it is the policy of the United States to promote freedom of opinion and expression and to open communication of information and ideas among the people of the world. The Agency has adopted as its mission statement “to inform, engage, and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy.”

(3) It is the Agency’s policy to make its program materials available, upon request, whenever doing so is consistent with all statutory authorities, prohibitions, principles, and standards. However, the Agency reserves the right to deny requests for program materials under circumstances described in Section 502.7 of this regulation.

(4) Pursuant to section 501 of the U.S. Information and Educational Exchange Act, as amended, as codified in 22 U.S.C. 1461, the Agency may, upon request, provide members of the public, organizations, and media with program materials which the Agency disseminated abroad, in accordance with these regulations.

(5) Pursuant to Section 208 of Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1986 and 1987, as amended, as codified at 22 U.S.C. 1461–1a, the Agency is prohibited from using appropriated funds to influence public opinion in the United States, however, the statute clarifies that the Agency may:

(i) Provide information about its operations, programs, or program materials to the media, the public, or Congress in accordance with applicable law;

(ii) Make program materials available in the United States, when appropriate, and in accordance with other applicable law.

§ 502.2 Definitions.

As used in this part:

(a) Media entity means any person or entity, that actively gathers information of potential interest to a segment of the public, turns gathered information into a distinct work, or distributes that work to an audience within the United States, and otherwise serves the purposes described in § 502.4.

(b) Organization means any corporation, trust, association, cooperative, or other group organized primarily for scientific, educational, service, charitable, or similar purpose, including but not limited to institutions of higher education, and otherwise serves the purposes described in § 502.4.


(d) Requestor means any private person or entity within the United States that requests program materials from the Agency.

§ 502.3 Availability of program materials on public Web sites.

(a) The Agency makes program materials available to Requestors through the Agency’s news and information
§ 502.4 Web sites designed for foreign audiences. To access currently-available Agency program materials, please visit www.voanews.com and www.martinoticias.com. The homepages of these Web sites display a portion of the Agency’s most recent news reporting. Additional program materials are available through the Web sites’ search functions.

(b) Program materials are available on Agency Web sites, and may be removed from Agency Web sites solely at the Agency’s discretion. The Agency will remove program materials from Agency Web sites when a National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) records schedule goes into effect, or when required by licensing agreements with third-party copyright holders. Once these program materials have been removed from Agency Web sites, they are no longer available from the Agency.

(1) When full programs are removed from the Agency’s Web sites in accordance with a NARA records schedule, programs designated as permanent will be transferred to NARA. For information on how to request Agency program materials that have been transferred to NARA, see the Agency’s records schedules and NARA’s regulations at www.nara.gov.

(2) Programs designated as temporary under a NARA records schedule will not be retained by the Agency once they are removed from the Agency’s Web sites and are no longer needed for the Agency’s use.

(c) Segments incorporated into final programs, including music, interviews, reports, and other program elements, will not be transferred to NARA independently of full program recordings, and will not be available after they have been removed from Agency Web sites.

(d) Draft program materials, and any other program materials not selected for dissemination abroad, are not available.

(e) The Agency shall determine the method of making program materials available, as well as the file type, file format, resolution, and storage medium(s) that are available. Program materials are only available in the same form (i.e. radio or television file-type and file format) and language in which the Agency disseminated them abroad.

[78 FR 39585, July 2, 2013, as amended at 78 FR 67026, Nov. 8, 2013]

§ 502.4 Media or organization one-time requests for broadcast quality agency program materials.

Upon request, the Agency may provide a broadcast-quality copy of Agency program materials to media entities, educational organizations, not-for-profit corporations, or other requestors. Requestors will be informed if materials are subject to third party content holders’ restrictions. One-time requests for broadcast quality copies of Agency program materials should be directed to:

(a) The Voice of America Office of Public Relations for broadcast-quality copies of Voice of America program materials; and

(b) The TV Marti Division of the Office of Cuba Broadcasting for broadcast-quality copies of TV or Radio Marti program materials.

[78 FR 67026, Nov. 8, 2013]

§ 502.5 Media or organization requests for ongoing subscriptions to broadcast quality agency program materials.

(a) Upon request, the Agency may make program materials available on an ongoing basis to Media entities, or other organizations, through a subscription agreement, provided that the Agency determines that entering into a subscription agreement to make program materials available on an ongoing basis would be consistent with the Agency’s mission and authorities. Requested, ongoing subscription agreements must be consistent with the Agency’s Policy for domestic distribution which incorporates the Broadcasting principles and standards and other requirements, found in 22 U.S.C. 1461, 1461–1a, 1462, 6201, 6202, 6203, 6204, 6205, 6206; Pub. L. 112–239, section 1078(b), 126 Stat. 1632, 1958; agreements with third-parties that hold a copyright in Agency program materials; and Terms of Use on Agency Web sites. Requestors shall secure all necessary