

Public Radio Music and Federal Funding

Fiscal Year (FY) 2025

Public Radio Funding Requests:

- \$595 million for CPB in FY 2027 (Two-Year Advance Funding)
- \$60 million for Interconnection
- \$56 million for Public Safety Infrastructure



What is a noncommercial (public radio) music station?

Noncommercial – also called “noncom” or “public radio” – music-format stations come in many shapes and sizes. They play every variation of classical, jazz, alternative, Americana, urban alternative, and eclectic or local regional music genres. **All stations are independent, nonprofit, community-based, and locally staffed and programmed.** Across the United States, 700 public radio stations feature music as a primary or significant part of their formats, and over 1,100 stations air any music as a part of their program schedule, reaching **30 million listeners** weekly.

Federal funding enables public radio stations to maintain their roles as providers of music and cultural programming, community news and information, and public safety services. Advanced funding is essential for public media’s public-private partnership—a system that has supported universal access to music, news, educational resources and emergency alerting for nearly 50 years.

 \$1 → \$8

On average, for every \$1 in federal grant money a public radio station receives, it raises \$8 from local audiences and businesses.

What Federal Funding Supports

- 🎵 **Payment of music licensing fees across the public media system**, so that your station can broadcast and stream all of the great local music and community news that you love.
- 🎵 **Community Service Grants (CSGs)** that provide annual support to eligible stations so that they can support local music and artists, foster music discovery and education, and enable music preservation.
- 🎵 **The interconnection system** – the nationwide distribution system that enables stations to acquire and distribute programming, and share content between stations. It also supports system-wide digital infrastructure to ensure that public radio music is available on any platform where audiences are.
- 🎵 **The Next Generation Warning System grants program** supports station-level investments in emergency alerting equipment and infrastructure to enhance their resiliency. Music stations all play a role in our nationwide emergency alerting system.