

Official Record Series 5

**United Kingdom
Civil Aviation Authority**



**CAA Scheme of Charges
Spaceflight**

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The Civil Aviation Authority, pursuant to Section 62 of, and Schedule 11, to the Space Industry Act 2018, and after consulting the persons who, in its opinion, are likely to be affected by the Scheme or such of those persons as it thinks fit, and after consulting with the Secretary of State, hereby makes a Scheme for determining the charges which are to be paid to the CAA in respect of its satellite operator licensing functions under the Space Industry Act 2018.

1 REVOCATION

- 1.1 The Scheme of Charges published by the CAA on 12 March 2025 determining the charges to be paid to the CAA in connection with the performance by the CAA of the aforesaid functions is hereby revoked.
- 1.2 Section 16(1) of the Interpretation Act 1978 (which relates to the effect of repeals) shall apply to this Scheme as if this Scheme were an enactment and as if the Scheme of 12 March 2025 revoked by paragraph 1.1 above was an enactment thereby repealed.

2 CHARGES

Charges are payable to the CAA as follows:

2.1 Satellite Licensing application charge

Upon making an application to the CAA under the Space Industry Act 2018 for a satellite operator licence, a non-refundable charge of £6,500 per licence will be charged via invoice.

Note:

- a) *For licences issued jointly under the Outer Space Act 1986 and Space Industry Act 2018, a single charge would apply (rather than issuing two charges, one under each Act).*
- b) *Operators may be eligible for lower charges through the refund scheme. Further details on eligibility for the scheme are set out in 2.0 below with further information being available on the Government [website](#) – ‘Guidance on Satellite Licensing Fees’.*

2.2 Refund Scheme

Where a satellite operator applies for more than 99 licenses in any 12-month rolling period the following refunds will be issued as per Table 1 below:

Table 1: Refund Values

Number of licence applications submitted	Current charge (per licence)	Proposed constellation charge (per licence)	Refund (per licence)
201+ licences	£6,500	£5,400	£1,100
151-200 licences	£6,500	£5,700	£800
100-150	£6,500	£6,200	£300
< 100 licences	£6,500	£6,500	£0

Note:

- a) *The 12-month period commences after an operator’s first licence application has been submitted during that period. This will set an operator’s refund band for future periods.*
- b) *Refund decisions will be taken on 31 March of each year, with refunds issued shortly afterwards (in April). The refund will be issued by:*
 - *the UK Space Agency for licences issued wholly under the Outer Space Act 1986 (and those issued jointly under the Outer Space Act 1986 and Space Industry Act 20182).*
 - *the CAA for licences issued wholly under the Space Industry Act 2018.*

2.3 Eligibility of the Refund Scheme

2.3.1 The scheme is open to:

- a) Any satellite operator that applies for multiple licences for satellites working in unison towards a common goal; and
- b) Where the licences are of identical parameters (technical and mission).

2.3.2 Operators will not be eligible for a refund if any of the following apply:

- a) There are material changes to the satellite platforms or their concept of operations. This reflects changes in either design, manufacture, or how they are used.
- b) The satellites do not perform as anticipated when the licences were first issued. Licences are issued on the assumption of certain satellite performance and reliability. If systemic problems with the design, manufacture, or operations of the satellite are to be discovered, this will require greater overhead of monitoring.

5.1 PAYMENT TERMS

All CAA invoices raised under this Scheme are payable on demand.

5.2 Recovery of third-party costs

Where the CAA is required to engage third-party services to fulfil its regulatory obligations due to limitations in internal capacity or capability, the associated costs may be charged to the applicant, subject to prior agreement. These charges will be in addition to any standard fees listed in this Scheme of Charges.

6 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Scheme:

- a) 'CAA' means the Civil Aviation Authority.

(This note is not part of the Scheme.)

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