



Talent Music Search Instructions

BMI/ASCAP/SESAC/GMR/PD Music Licensing Coverage

Must Accompany [Talent Music Reservation Form](#) (link)

How to search BMI (Broadcast Music, Inc.)

- go to <http://www.bmi.com/search>
- enter music selection in “BMI Repertoire” search box

How to search ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers)

- go to www.ASCAP.com
- click on “ACE Repertory” to search

How to search GMR (Global Music Rights)

- go to <http://globalmusicrights.com/>
- click on “search our catalog”

How to search SESAC (Performing Rights Organization)

- go to www.SESAC.com
- click on “Repertory” from top menu
- click on “continue on Search Repertory”

It is usually best to begin your search by title. Once the title comes up, then match the writer(s). Be sure the title and the writer(s) match the song you plan to use.

How much does it cost to use a song?

- Licensing fees depend on many things including, but not limited to the fame of the song, the popularity of the performer, the way the song is used in production and the production media format. **ONLY MAO’s production company can obtain permission and agree to any possible discretionary fees with a publisher. MAO has agreements to use only music covered by the music licensors above. The appropriate printout must be received with the submission of the Talent Music Reservation Form.**
- Even if you know the writer, performer, or their management, they do not always control their own music and their approval is many times invalid.

The music I want to use in my talent act is so old I think it’s in the public domain (also called PD).

- Do not assume your music selection is classified Public Domain (PD) because it was published in 1925 or earlier. Whether a song is PD depends on MANY things—laws vary depending on WHEN the piece was created, as well as WHERE your talent act will be exhibited.
- Sometimes PD pieces are newly arranged and will need to clear the publishing rights for new arrangements. For more info, click here <https://www.pdinfo.com/>