Overview of The MLC
The MLC’s Origin and Role

The MLC was created pursuant to the Music Modernization Act (MMA) of 2018.

The MLC administers a new blanket mechanical license available to Digital Music Providers in the U.S. for digital audio services (i.e., interactive streaming and downloads).
The MLC’s Role

U.S. Digital Audio Services → The MLC → Members

The MLC is the **EXCLUSIVE** administrator of the new blanket license.

The MLC is the **ONLY** organization that can collect and distribute the royalties paid pursuant to this new blanket license to rightsholders.
The MLC’s Role

The MLC will . . .

✓ Establish and maintain a PUBLIC DATABASE of musical works ownership information
✓ Administer a new BLANKET LICENSE covering mechanical rights available to eligible digital audio services operating in the U.S.
✓ Receive and MATCH sound recording usage reporting data from digital audio services with The MLC’s musical works ownership data
✓ Collect and DISTRIBUTE U.S. DIGITAL AUDIO Mechanical Royalties to music publishers, administrators, foreign mechanical rights organizations, and self-administered songwriters, composers, and lyricists

The MLC will NOT . . .

☒ Administer performance rights for musical works or collect PERFORMANCE ROYALTIES
☒ Administer digital performance rights for sound recordings or collect DIGITAL PERFORMANCE ROYALTIES
☒ Administer mechanical rights or collect mechanical royalties for PHYSICAL PRODUCTS
☒ Administer any licenses or collect any royalties related to the use of musical works in AUDIOVISUAL PRODUCTS or LYRICS
☒ Administer licenses or collect royalties for the use of musical works OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

The MLC will NOT replace PROs
The MLC will NOT replace SoundExchange
The MLC’s Role

Musical Works

Audio Only

Mechanical Rights

Digital

Interactive Streams | Downloads

Sound Recordings

Audiovisual

Public Performance

Physical

Non-Interactive Streams

Public Performance

Audiovisual

Sound Recordings

The MLC does NOT administer lyric rights either
Key Questions
### Who Needs to Become a Member?

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<th>ALL</th>
<th>Only</th>
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<td>Music Publishers, Administrators &amp; CMOs</td>
<td>SELF-ADMINISTERED Songwriters, Composers &amp; Lyricists</td>
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- **ALL** who have the right to collect digital audio mechanical royalties from licensees in the U.S.
- **Only** who have retained the right to collect digital audio mechanical royalties from licensees in the U.S. for at least one musical work.

The MLC will pay anyone entitled to collect mechanicals for a given musical work.

Unlike the system for performance royalties, mechanical royalties are NOT separated into “writer’s shares” and “publishers” shares.
When Will We Start Paying Royalties?

MONTHLY STATEMENTS AND PAYMENTS

Timing & Cadence of Royalty Payments

We expect to start sending out royalty payments and statements in MID-LATE APRIL covering the JANUARY monthly period.

LINK: Royalty Payments | Mechanical Licensing Collective (themlc.com)
What Should You Do Now?

**BECOME A MEMBER**
If you are a PUBLISHER, ADMINISTRATOR OR CMO or a SELF-ADMINISTERED SONGWRITER, become a Member by clicking the Connect to Collect button on the homepage of our website at www.themlc.com.

**CHECK YOUR DATA**
Members of The MLC can check their data by participating in our new and innovative DATA QUALITY INITIATIVE (DQI).

For more information:
- visit: www.themlc.com/resources or email us at data.quality@themlc.com

(Those who are NOT yet Members can still check their data using our public search window: https://portal.themlc.com/search)

**CONFIRM PAYMENT INFO**
Please make sure to check your contact and payment/banking information in The MLC Portal by clicking “Maintenance” in the menu on the left side of their account screen.

If you have any questions, please contact our Support Team:
- By phone: 615-488-3653
- By email: support@themlc.com
How to Become a Member

Enroll Online!
Visit our website at www.themlc.com and click the blue Connect to Collect button to connect to The MLC Portal.
There, you can create a user account and a Member Profile.

DSPs pay 100% of The MLC’s operating costs. This allows The MLC to distribute 100% of the royalties we receive without deducting any administration fees.
We’re Here to Help!

**PHONE**  
**615-488-3653**

**E-MAIL**  
The MLC Website/Contact

**CHAT**  
In the portal

### Hours of Operation

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For more information, please visit:

www.TheMLC.com