§ 90.15 Scope.

The Public Safety Radio Pool covers the licensing of the radio communications of governmental entities and the following category of activities: Medical services, rescue organizations, veterinarians, persons with disabilities, disaster relief organizations, school buses, beach patrols, establishments in isolated places, communications standby facilities, and emergency repair of public communications facilities. Entities not meeting these eligibility criteria may also be licensed in the Public Safety Radio Pool solely to provide service to eligibles on one-way paging-only frequencies below 800 MHz, i.e., those frequencies with the assignment limitations appearing at §90.20(d)(13) or (d)(60). Private carrier systems licensed on other channels prior to June 1, 1990, may continue to provide radio communications service to eligibles. Rules as to eligibility for licensing, frequencies available, permissible communications and classes and number of stations, and any special requirements are set forth in the following sections.

§ 90.16 Public Safety National Plan.

The Commission has established a National Plan which specifies special policies and procedures governing the Public Safety Pool (formally Public Safety Radio Services and the Special Emergency Radio Service). The National Plan is contained in the Report and Order in General Docket No. 87–112. The principal spectrum resource for the National Plan is the 806–809 MHz and the 851–854 MHz bands at locations farther than 110 km (68.4 miles) from the U.S./Mexico border and 140 km (87 miles) from the U.S./Canadian border (“border regions”). In the border regions, the principal spectrum for the National Plan may be different. The National plan establishes planning regions covering all parts of the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. No assignments will be made in the spectrum designated for the National Plan until a regional plan for the area has been accepted by the Commission.

Source: 62 FR 18845, Apr. 17, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

§ 90.19 Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network.

Pursuant to the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, Public Law 112–96, 126 Stat. 156 (2012), the 758–769 MHz and 788–799 MHz bands are allocated for use by the First Responder Network Authority to deploy a nationwide public safety broadband network as prescribed by statute.


§ 90.20 Public Safety Pool.

(a) Eligibility. The following are eligible to hold authorizations in the Public Safety Pool:

(1) Any territory, possession, state, city, county, town or similar governmental entity is eligible to hold authorizations in the Public Safety Pool to operate radio stations for transmission of communications essential to official activities of the licensee, including:

(i) A district and an authority;

(ii) A governmental institution authorized by law to provide its own police protection;

(iii) Persons or entities engaged in the provision of basic or advanced life support services on an ongoing basis are eligible to hold authorization to operate stations for transmission of communications essential for the delivery or rendition of emergency medical services for the provision of basic or advanced life support. Applications...