

Date sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2013
Subject: FCC Asks for Input on Video Description

On June 25, 2013, the FCC's Media Bureau released a public notice asking for information about video description for programs shown on television and for television programs delivered on the Internet. Video description is the insertion of audio narrated descriptions of a television program's key visual elements into natural pauses between the program's dialogue, which makes video programming accessible to individuals who are blind or visually impaired. This inquiry about video description is required by the Twenty-First Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (CVAA). The CVAA also requires the FCC to report to Congress about the results of this inquiry.

Specifically, the FCC wants information about the availability, use, and benefits of video description on television programs; the technical and creative issues associated with providing video description; and the financial costs of providing video description for television program owners and providers. The FCC also wants information about the technical and operational issues, costs, and benefits of providing video descriptions for Internet-delivered television programs.

Comment Due Date: September 4, 2013
Reply Comment Due Date: October 2, 2013

Links to the Public Notice:

Word: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-13-1438A1.docx

PDF: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-13-1438A1.pdf

For additional information, contact Maria Mullarkey of the Media Bureau Policy Division at Maria.Mullarkey@fcc.gov or (202) 418-2120.