

© Short Forms

A short paper version of some application forms may make registering a copyright claim using paper forms easier. The information requested is minimal, and the instructions are brief.

Short Forms PA, TX, and VA

Short Form PA

To register published and unpublished works of the performing arts, including dramas, music, and lyrics. Audiovisual works, including motion pictures, must be registered on the standard forms.

Short Form TX

To register published and unpublished nondramatic literary works, including fiction and nonfiction, books, short stories, poems, collections of poetry, essays, articles in serials, and computer programs.

Short Form VA

To register published and unpublished works of the visual arts, including pictorial, graphic, and sculptural works.

Requirements for Using Short Forms PA, TX, and VA

- 1 The author must be living, must be the only author of his or her work, and must be the sole owner of the copyright in the work.
- 2 The work may not be a compilation or derivative work that contains a significant amount of material that has been previously published or registered.
- 3 The work must not be a work made for hire. A “work made for hire” is defined as a work prepared by an employee within the scope of his or her employment; or a work specially ordered or commissioned for certain qualifying uses that are specified in the definition of “work made for hire” in section 101 of the 1976 Copyright Act, if the parties expressly state in a written agreement signed by them that the work shall be considered a work made for hire.

NOTE: If there is more than one author of the work or if a business organization is the copyright claimant, the standard paper form must be used, or you may register online.

If all the above conditions are not met, use the standard paper application forms or register online at www.copyright.gov. Short Forms are not appropriate for an anonymous author (one whose name does not appear on the copy of the work) who does not want to reveal his or her identity.

Rights and Permissions Information

Short Forms PA, TX, and VA each include an optional space to record the name and address of the person or organization to contact for permission to use the work.

Short Form SE

Short Form SE is appropriate for a single issue of a serial. A serial is defined as a work issued or intended to be issued in successive parts bearing numerical or chronological designations and intended to be continued indefinitely. This class includes a variety of works, such as periodicals; newspapers; annuals; and the journals, proceedings, and transactions of societies. Do not use Short Form SE to register an individual contribution to a serial. Go to www.copyright.gov to register such contributions.

To use Short Form SE, all the following conditions must be met. If any one of the conditions does not apply, you must use the paper version of Form SE or register online. Incorrect use of Short Form SE will result in a delay in your registration.

- 1 The claim must be in a collective work.
- 2 The work must be essentially an all-new collective work or issue.
- 3 The author must be a citizen or domiciliary of the United States.
- 4 The work must be a work made for hire.
- 5 The author(s) and claimant(s) must be the same person(s) or organization(s).
- 6 The work must be first published in the United States.

A “collective work” is a work, such as a serial issue, in which a number of contributions are assembled into a collective whole. A claim in the “collective work” extends to all copyrightable authorship created by employees of the author,

as well as any independent contributions in which the claimant has acquired ownership of the copyright

How to Get Short Forms

Call the Forms and Publications Hotline 24 hours a day at (202) 707-9100 and leave a recorded message. Or write:

*Library of Congress
Copyright Office
101 Independence Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20559*

Mail the short form together with the deposit and fee to the Copyright Office.

NOTE: Copyright Office fees are subject to change. For current fees, check the Copyright Office website at www.copyright.gov, write the Copyright Office, or call (202) 707-3000 or 1-877-476-0778.

For Further Information

By Internet

Circulars, announcements, regulations, other related materials, and copyright application forms are available on the Copyright Office website at www.copyright.gov. To send an email communication, select *Contact Us* at the top of the homepage.

By telephone

For general information about copyright, call the Copyright Public Information Office at (202) 707-3000 or 1-877-476-0778 (toll free). Staff members are on duty from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM, eastern time, Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. Recorded information is available 24 hours a day. To request paper application forms or circulars, call the Forms and Publications Hotline at (202) 707-9100. Leave a recorded message.

By regular mail

Write to:

*Library of Congress
Copyright Office
101 Independence Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20559*