

## **Overview of the Copyright Clearance Center Transaction Reporting Service Volume Discount Program**

### **Introduction**

In September 2004, the MLA Board of Directors considered sponsoring a consortium so that members could take advantage of the Copyright Clearance Center's (CCC's) processing fee discount. Results of a Chapter Council survey of libraries about this issue indicated that not every consortium knew about the discount. Based on that and the fact that 78% of the surveyed libraries were already in consortia, the board decided not to pursue sponsoring a consortium, but to educate members about the discount via MLANET. Below is a discussion of the processing fee. This is meant to be informational only and should not be considered an endorsement of this program. Members should also familiarize themselves with their fair use rights. Information resources about fair use appear at the end of this report.

### **Transactional Reporting Service Volume Discount Program**

The Transactional Reporting Service (TRS) allows libraries to obtain instant photocopy permission to lawfully reproduce excerpts of copyrighted works for a small fee that covers the cost of the royalty fees set by the publisher, author, or other copyright owner and a CCC processing fee.

For customers using TRS, CCC has extended a special discount to US-based consortia and their members. Consortia whose members collectively purchase \$10,000 or more annually in copyright permissions, processing fee and royalty fee combined, through CCC's TRS may be eligible to pay \$1.00 per granted transaction, a 67% discount off of the \$3.00 processing fee. Below are details about the program:

- This online service is available for *academic use* (e.g., college and university libraries) <<http://www.copyright.com/ccc/do/viewPage?pageCode=ac1-n>> and *business providers* (e.g., medical centers) at <<http://www.copyright.com/ccc/do/viewPage?pageCode=bu1-n>>.
- To participate in the volume discount program, a representative of the consortium must contact CCC to set up the program, communicate the program to its members, and provide CCC with a list of members who will participate in the discount program. If your library wishes to participate in the TRS Volume Discount Program, contact your consortium. To find a consortium in your area, contact your chapter <<http://www.mlanet.org/chapters/>> or state medical library association <[http://www.mlanet.org/resources/allied\\_inks.html#3](http://www.mlanet.org/resources/allied_inks.html#3)>.
- Eligibility is evaluated annually, based on the calendar year. All consortia whose members collectively spent \$10,000 or more in 2005 are eligible for the discount in 2006.
- Eligibility is based on total TRS copyright permissions costs, the processing fee and royalty fee combined, of the collective members of the consortium.
- Final determination of eligibility is at the sole discretion of CCC. Additional information about the discount program can be found at:  
<<http://www.copyright.com/ccc/do/viewPage?pageCode=i6>>.

## **Fair Use Resources**

MLA has several statements to assist librarians in understanding and complying with the copyright law and managing copyright. Please remember that under the fair use provisions of the copyright law, your library may be able to request and make copies of articles without paying royalty fees or working with CCC. You need to understand and exercise your fair use rights whenever possible. Below are some resources that will help you determine when you can do something freely under fair use and when you need to seek permission and pay fees to CCC or the copyright holder.

The statement, Copyright and Fair Use Position Statement, provides an overview of the rights and responsibilities of librarians under the US Copyright Law.

<<http://www.mlanet.org/government/positions/copyright.html>>

The statements, Medical Library Association Copyright Management Guidelines and Guidelines for Selecting Copyright Management Options, address strategies for managing copyright permissions, fair use, and royalty payments for content that is not part of a library's collection or license agreement.

<[http://www.mlanet.org/government/positions/copyright\\_mgmt.html](http://www.mlanet.org/government/positions/copyright_mgmt.html)>

<[http://www.mlanet.org/government/positions/copyright\\_mgmt2.html](http://www.mlanet.org/government/positions/copyright_mgmt2.html)>

Several frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the topics of fair use and the copyright law can be found at:

<<http://www.mlanet.org/government/positions/index.html>>.

MLA's statement, The Copyright Law and the Health Sciences Librarian, includes guidelines for audiovisual learning centers, collection maintenance, interlibrary loan, photocopy services, reserve collections, and computer software and has eight appendixes of sample documents and background materials. The booklet is available for purchase at:

<[http://www.mlanet.org/order/store/cat/product\\_info.php?products\\_id=44](http://www.mlanet.org/order/store/cat/product_info.php?products_id=44)>

## **Disclaimer**

This statement is intended as a practical guide and should not be used in place of sound legal advice. The statement does not purport to be a legal statement. Because of the nature of the subject matter, in which legal rights and liabilities often depend on specific facts and circumstances, you are encouraged to consult with competent legal counsel as appropriate.