



Luach Saothair ó Iasachtaí leis an bPobal
Public Lending Remuneration



What is the Public Lending Remuneration Scheme?



AN CHOMHAIRLE LEABHARLANNA
The Library Council

1. INTRODUCTION

Public Lending Remuneration (PLR) is the mechanism for authors to receive payment under PLR legislation for the loans of their books by public libraries.

PLR is administered in Ireland by An Chomhairle Leabharlanna (The Library Council). Under PLR a payment will be made to registered authors in respect of registered books loaned by public library authorities.

To receive PLR you must check that you and your book(s) are eligible (refer to sections 3, 4 and 5), and then apply to register your books (details in sections 7 and 8).

2. HOW THE SYSTEM WORKS

To claim PLR, authors (and translators, illustrators, photographers, etc.) must register with the PLR Office, providing an address and bank details, etc., and details of each edition of each book they wish to claim for.

Public libraries will provide the PLR Office with loans data, giving details of the number of times each book in their collections is issued during the year. At the end of the PLR year, the loans data from each authority will be matched to the author/title data and a list of authors whose books have been loaned, and the number of issues of each, will be produced. Payment will be made to authors in respect of their contribution to the work for which the payment is due. The scheme will allow for the percentage of the payment to be made for various levels of contribution, which include contributions such as sole author, joint author, editor, translator, and illustrator.

3. RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT

At the time of application you must be a citizen of, or a resident in, any of the countries within the European Economic Area (i.e. EU Member States plus Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein). Under Irish PLR payment is made in respect of borrowings from Irish public libraries.

Further details on PLR Schemes around the world can be found on the PLR international website www.plrinternational.com

4. ELIGIBLE BOOK

A book is eligible for PLR registration provided that:

- it has an eligible contributor (see Section 5 below).
- it is printed and bound (paperbacks counting as bound).
- copies of it have been offered for sale.
- the authorship is personal (ie not a company or organisation).

Books that are wholly or mainly musical scores, newspapers, magazines and journals are not eligible for PLR.

5. ELIGIBLE CONTRIBUTORS AND SHARES

To qualify for PLR in a book you should be named on the title page or be entitled to a royalty payment from the publisher (but you do not have to own the copyright). Where two or more contributors are involved you must divide the PLR on the basis of percentage shares which must be agreed before applying for registration. Every contributor named on the title page of a book needs to be consulted when agreeing percentage shares and the agreed division should reflect the contribution. Each eligible contributor may then submit a separate application.

The following types of contributor must be taken into account:

- **Writers** – share to reflect contribution.
- **Illustrators/photographers** – share fixed at 20%.
If there is more than one illustrator (including any who are not eligible persons), an equal share of 20%.
- **Translators** – share fixed at 30%. If there is more than one translator (including any who are not eligible persons), an equal share of 30%.
- **Original author** – even if out of copyright or deceased a notional share should be allocated to reflect the contribution.
- **Editors/compilers** – share fixed at 20%.
If there is more than one editor or compiler (including any who are not eligible persons), an equal share of 20%.

If the shares above do not reflect the contribution of the individual, the Registrar of PLR may determine the share.

6. DEAD OR MISSING CONTRIBUTORS

Where a contributor has died or cannot be located, the remaining contributor(s) may still register a share. If similar books have been registered in the past, the same share agreement may stand. If not, the shares should be reasonable in relation to actual contribution. When applying you must list all the contributors and shares including any deceased and confirm that you have attempted to locate any missing contributors through the publisher and PLR Office.

7. SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

You must register separately each book and each new edition where it has a different ISBN. However, once an ISBN has been registered you do not need to apply for it again. Applications to register for PLR must be made on an official form available from the PLR Office. Application forms can also be downloaded from the PLR website (www.plr.ie). It is not possible to register books via letter, nor can anyone else register on your behalf (unless they have the legal authority to act on your behalf).

8. UPDATING YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS

Please notify PLR of changes to personal details as soon as they occur. You can update your address and bank details in writing. We can also accept changes of address (but not bank) over the telephone, subject to verification being provided.



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