

## ***ALCS and Writers' Estates***

We collect and pay money to the beneficiaries of writers' estates.

**AL  
CS**

ALCS collects money for writers and their beneficiaries, where their works have been used in the UK and across the world. Since 1977, we have paid *over £750 million* to writers.

We make two payments a year to members, and you might be paid in one or both of these, depending on what money we've collected for you.

“Writer-conceived, writer-founded, writer-owned, writer-run. ALCS is an impressive example of *creator-driven* collective bargaining, fee-collection, digital admin and *distribution*; and has *decades of experience* in collaborative networking”

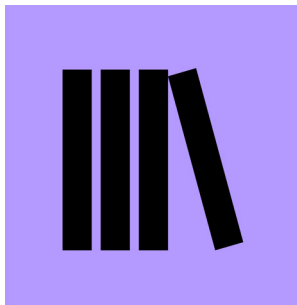
*Felicity Hayes-McCoy*



ALCS charges a *lifetime membership fee*. To find out the current rate please visit our website [alcs.co.uk](http://alcs.co.uk)



**We believe  
that writers  
have a right to  
be *paid*.**



## ***Why you should join***

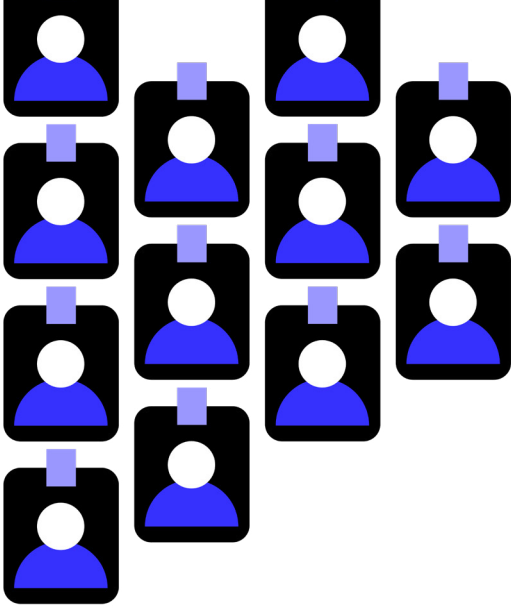
Copyright lasts for 70 years after the death of an author, so beneficiaries of authors are eligible to join ALCS.

Sign up as a Successor Member of ALCS; then we'll pay you any money we collect for the use of the estate's works.

We collect royalties due to UK works from around the world and then match the money received with the writers of the works in question. If the writer isn't already an ALCS member, we carry out research to locate them.

We're a not-for-profit membership organisation. To fund the running of our company, we charge a commission fee on the money we pay out to you. The current commission fee can be found on our website: [alcs.co.uk](https://alcs.co.uk)

We cannot confirm or guarantee any specific payment levels to you until you have joined as a member. Please note that we can only hold any royalties we collect for you for a maximum period of three years, so we urge you to join as soon as possible to receive all the money owed to you.



## *How* to join

Complete the application for membership form and return this, along with copies of either the relevant clause of the Will or a copy of the Grant of Probate, to ALCS.

## *Who* should apply

The beneficiary under the Will or the eligible representative of the estate of the deceased should apply for Successor Membership. If royalties are not mentioned specifically in the Will then the residual beneficiary should apply. If you are applying as a representative (for example, a Solicitor administering the estate), please notify ALCS as soon as the appropriate beneficiary has been identified, as they should apply for Successor Membership in place of the Estate Representative.

## Beneficiaries

We ask that only one representative of an estate joins ALCS (with the written permission of the others).

If you would like to discuss your application please contact the ALCS office: [alcs.co.uk/contact](https://alcs.co.uk/contact)  
After joining, you simply need to keep your account up-to-date with any changes to your personal details so that we can continue to make payments to you.



We make sure you receive the money you're *entitled* to as a writer or a beneficiary when works are copied or used.

## What we *do*

- A community of over 130,000 writer members
- We've paid more than £750 million to writers since 1977
- One-off lifetime membership fee

We're a not-for-profit organisation with over 130,000 members. We're open to all types of writers and are owned by our members. The money we collect is for 'secondary uses' of members' work — such as photocopies, cable retransmission, digital reproduction and educational recording. These sorts of rights typically bring in small amounts of money that are difficult for writers to monitor individually, so the most effective way to gather them is collectively. It takes tireless investigation, as well as experience and expertise. But nowadays, with the help of our bespoke IT systems, we can collect money from all over the world through agreements with over 55 different societies in more than 40 countries.

We also campaign on matters important to writers — both at a national and international level — to ensure writers' rights are recognised and rewarded. Nobody else in the world does exactly what we do, though we're often compared to other organisations.

We measure our worth by the amount of money we've collected and paid to writers, as well as by our successes in advocating for writers and educating about copyright.

## How ALCS is *run*

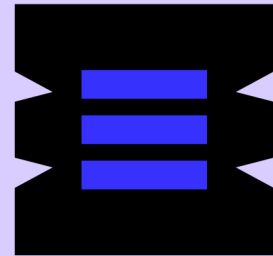
ALCS aims to be as transparent as possible in all areas of our business. All our documents relating to the way in which ALCS operates as a collecting society and our offering to members can be downloaded from our website: [alcs.co.uk/how-alcs-is-run](https://alcs.co.uk/how-alcs-is-run)

When writers or their beneficiaries join ALCS, they are asked to sign the terms and conditions of ALCS membership. These terms and conditions set out the ‘rights’ which you, as a member, are granting to ALCS and which enable us to collect on your behalf. The terms and conditions relate specifically to the ALCS Memorandum and Articles of Association.

If at any time members wish to withdraw any of these rights from ALCS, they can do so by contacting us. The notice period for withdrawing rights is set out in our Memorandum and Articles of Association.

There are two key documents that explain how ALCS operates — our Memorandum and Articles of Association, which set out the way we operate, and our Distribution Rules, which set out the specific ways in which we distribute income to our members. Both documents can be accessed at [alcs.co.uk/how-alcs-is-run](https://alcs.co.uk/how-alcs-is-run)

- We collect money for all types of writers — journalists, scriptwriters, academics, fiction writers, poets and more.
- ALCS is set up by writers, for writers
- Sign up at [alcs.co.uk](https://alcs.co.uk)



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