

The Collaboration License

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Collaboration License?

The Collaboration License is an amendment to your organization's Multinational Copyright License and/or VG WORT Digital Copyright License. It allows project team members from two licensed organizations who are working on a project together to share articles, research and other published content with one another for purposes of the collaboration.

2. Does the Collaboration License allow content sharing between all employees of the two collaborating organizations?

No, the Collaboration License allows members of a specific project team, defined in the Collaboration License as a "collaboration unit", to share content with other team members for purposes of that collaborative project. It does not authorize general sharing of content between employees of the two organizations.

3. How does a company qualify for a Collaboration License?

All businesses with a Multinational Copyright License or VG WORT Digital Copyright License from RightsDirect, qualify for the Collaboration License. The license is currently offered at no additional charge, but it requires both your organization and its collaboration partners to also be licensed by CCC or RightsDirect. In addition, collaboration partners have to sign the Collaboration License Amendment. The Collaboration License is only for business uses of works covered under the CCC and RightsDirect copyright license repertory.

4. How do I sign up for the Collaboration License?

Organizations can sign up for the Collaboration License online at RightsDirect's Collaboration Portal. Please contact your RightsDirect account representative to obtain access to the Collaboration Portal. Adding and removing collaboration partners is also managed online using our online portal.

5. What do I do after I sign up?

Once you have signed the Collaboration License online, you should reach out to your intended collaboration partners to:

- Inform them that you would like to list their organization as a partner on your license;
- Confirm that their organization is licensed under a CCC or RightsDirect copyright license AND the Collaboration License;
- Explain what the Collaboration License covers (and what it doesn't)

Once you have confirmed the above with your partner you can use the Add/Remove form on the Collaboration Portal to add your organization's intended partners. Both your organization and the partner must be licensed and maintain a signed Collaboration Amendment in order to share materials within the scope of the license.

6. What are some of the important restrictions of the Collaboration License?

It's important to keep in mind that the Collaboration License is subject to the same general rules as your RightsDirect business license. In particular, the license may not be used to replace subscriptions or purchases by your organization or its partners of the content they need as part of their daily activities. And, just as with your RightsDirect license, the Collaboration License does not authorize the bulk or systematic sharing of copies, including document delivery (whether paid or for free, and whether you are the company delivering the documents or receiving them). Rather, the license is intended to allow the occasional exchange of key articles, news stories and other literature between work group members which occurs in the ordinary course of a project.

7. What happens when my company no longer works with a partner that we listed under our Collaboration License?

When your contractual relationship with a partner company ends, sharing with employees of that organization is no longer authorized under the Collaboration License, and you should notify your employees on the relevant project team that such sharing is no longer permitted. In addition, you should use the Collaboration Portal to delete the partner company from your list of collaboration partners.