

## Certificate of Cable Franchise Authority<sup>8</sup>

Since 2006, the Secretary of State's Office has been the franchise authority for cable franchises in the state of South Carolina. Previously, cable franchises were issued by municipalities and counties. Under current law, cable companies only apply to the Secretary of State for a statewide certificate of cable franchise authority.

A person or entity seeking to provide cable or video service in South Carolina must file an application for a state-issued certificate of franchise authority with the Secretary of State. The filing fee for the application is \$110.00.


Within five days of receipt of an application or an amended application for a certificate of cable franchise authority, the Secretary of State notifies affected municipalities and/or counties of the application. The Secretary of State also requests the following from the municipalities and/or counties: (a) franchise fee rate; (b) number of access channels under the franchise agreement; and (c) whether the municipalities and/or counties consent to the state-issued certificate of franchise authority sought in the application.

If a municipality or county does not consent or does not respond within 65 days of the Secretary of State's request, the Secretary of State denies the application and notes the reason for the denial. Within 80 days from the Secretary of State's request to the affected municipalities and/or counties, the Secretary of State issues a certificate of franchise authority to the applicant.

A cable services provider may terminate its certificate of franchise authority issued by the Secretary of State by submitting written notice to the Secretary of State and affected municipalities and counties.

The Secretary of State keeps a public record of certificates applied for and posts on the agency's website information relating to any certificate of franchise authority issued.

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
SECRETARY OF STATE**



**APPLICATION FOR A STATE-ISSUED  
CERTIFICATE OF FRANCHISE AUTHORITY**

Pursuant to state law, a person or entity seeking to provide cable or video service must have a certificate of franchise authority, either an existing certificate issued by a local government under prior law, or upon expiration of that certificate issued by a local government, a state-issued certificate of franchise authority issued by the Secretary of State under S.C. Code of Laws §56-12-310(B).


**TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY WITH BLACK INK**

Pursuant to S.C. Code Section 56-12-310, the undersigned hereby applies for authorization to provide cable or video service in the state of South Carolina.

- The name of the applicant is \_\_\_\_\_
- The applicant is providing  Cable Service OR  Video Service
- The street address of the applicant is \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address  
City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
The mailing address of the applicant is \_\_\_\_\_
- The municipalities and unincorporated areas of counties that are proposed to be served by the applicant are to be described in the accompanying Affidavit in Support of State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority. For each of the municipalities and unincorporated areas of counties so described, provide the name, address and telephone number for the person to whom the Notice of Application for a State-Issued Certificate of Franchise Authority should be provided.

Municipality/Area	Name & Title	Address	Telephone No.	Expiration Date of Current Franchise (if applicable)

**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
SECRETARY OF STATE**



**NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF STATE-ISSUED  
CERTIFICATE OF FRANCHISE AUTHORITY OR AMENDED STATE-ISSUED  
CERTIFICATE OF FRANCHISE AUTHORITY**

Pursuant to state law, a person or entity seeking to provide cable or video service must have a certificate of franchise authority, either an existing certificate issued by a local government under prior law, or upon expiration of that certificate issued by a local government, a state-issued certificate of franchise authority issued by the Secretary of State under S.C. Code of Laws §56-12-310(B).

**TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY WITH BLACK INK**

Pursuant to Section 56-12-310(H) of the 1976 South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, the undersigned hereby provides notice of the termination of its State-issued Certificate of Franchise Authority or Amended State-issued Certificate of Franchise Authority.

- Cable or video service provider holding certificate: \_\_\_\_\_
- Date of issue of certificate: \_\_\_\_\_
- Copies of this notice shall be submitted to the affected municipalities and/or counties.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Cable or Video Service Provider \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Type or Print Name and Office \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

NOTICE OF TERMINATION Form Revised by South Carolina Secretary of State April 2013

<sup>8</sup> S.C. House of Representatives, House Legislative Oversight Committee, "Agency Presentation – Municipalities (December 9, 2019)," under "Committee Postings and Reports," under "House Legislative Oversight Committee," under "Secretary of State, Office of the," and under "Meetings," <https://www.scstatehouse.gov/CommitteeInfo/HouseLegislativeOversightCommittee/AgencyWebpages/SecretaryofState/Municipalities%20presentation%20by%20SoS%20-%20PowerPoint.pdf> (accessed January 21, 2020), slide 37-41, and 45. Hereinafter "Municipalities Presentation."