

Title:	AWIN Talkgroup and Subscriber Addition Policy
Areas affected:	All AWIN Users
Last Revised:	2/11/09
Policy Owner:	Arkansas Interoperable Communications Executive Committee

## AWIN Talkgroup and Subscriber Addition Policy

### 1. Purpose:

- 1.1. The success of the Arkansas Wireless Information Network (AWIN) has resulted in a substantial number of requests from existing and new users for dedicated talkgroups and/or increases in the number of subscribers on AWIN. These requests are a reflection of the recognition of AWIN's ability to provide statewide interoperability as well as an increased desire for the use of AWIN for full time operations. This document is issued to provide the policy for approving the addition of talkgroups or subscribers to the Arkansas Wireless Information Network.

### 2. Policy:

#### 2.1. Ensuring Public Safety Grade of Service

The increase in requests to use AWIN is positive, but also raises concerns for ensuring ongoing public safety grade capacity from all AWIN tower sites for all AWIN users. It is the policy of the Arkansas Interoperable Communications Committee (AICC) to ensure that a Public Safety Grade of Service is maintained for all AWIN users.

#### 2.2. Service Level Request and Capacity Increase Requirement

Due to capacity integrity issues, and the fact that AWIN does not charge user fees, the Executive Committee of the AICC has determined that the users of AWIN must fund AWIN capacity increases as a condition of their increased service level requests. To accomplish this, a set of guidelines have been developed to identify the AWIN capacity increase associated with typical increased service level requests. These guidelines are outlined below.

- 2.2.1. Subscriber Additions - One channel addition at each AWIN tower site providing RF coverage for the requesting jurisdiction per each 100 subscribers over the first 25 subscribers.
  - 2.2.1.1. Examples:
    - 2.2.1.1.1. 26 -125 Subscribers = 1 channel addition per serving site
    - 2.2.1.1.2. 126-225 Subscribers = 2 channel additions per serving site
  - 2.2.2. Dedicated Talkgroup Additions - A minimum of one channel addition at each AWIN tower site providing RF coverage for the requesting jurisdiction. If more than a single additional talkgroup is requested a technical analysis will be required to assess the capacity impact beyond a single channel addition
  - 2.2.3. Subscriber Additions and Dedicated Talkgroup Additions - A minimum of one channel addition at each AWIN tower site providing RF coverage for the requesting jurisdiction. A technical analysis will be required to assess the capacity impact and determine if more than a single channel addition is required
  - 2.2.4. Transition Full Time Public Safety Operations to AWIN - Refer to the AWIN New User Process (contact the AWIN Program Director for a copy) which addresses the specific steps for the full time use of AWIN

#### 2.3. Access to talkgroups

- 2.3.1. Dedicated talkgroups will not be programmed into any radios except for the entity that has requested the talkgroup.
- 2.3.2. ADEM and ASP will not have access to dedicated talkgroups. Therefore, in times of crises it is critical that entities with dedicated talkgroups use the designated command and control talkgroups for interoperability with outside responding agencies.
- 2.3.3. Entities that wish to have access to other entities dedicated talkgroups must obtain a letter of permission from the talkgroups owner prior to radio programming.

#### 2.4. Application of Guidelines

- 2.4.1. It is expected that there will be variances in how these guidelines are applied depending on the specific nature of each increased service level request.
- 2.4.2. To ensure that capacity is added in the most effective manner possible, the AWIN Program Office will determine where the capacity increase will actually be applied within AWIN in the state and provide this for review and approval of the Executive Committee of the AICC. It is the policy of the Executive Committee that sufficient AWIN capacity is provided for any given user irrespective of where actual capacity increases are applied on the network.

### 3. Controls:

- 3.1. Entities found to be operating outside this AICC Policy may be subject to having their subscriber units inhibited until the situation is corrected.