

Who we are:

Creative Commons USA is a chapter of the CC Global Network. We focus on furthering progress toward open culture, open education, open data, and open access to research in the United States. We provide legal expertise around the CC licenses, support to organizations and institutions that use (or could use) open licensing, and advice for decision-makers on issues and policies that move us toward a more open society.

With the advent of the Internet, we've entered an era of untold potential for development, growth and productivity – but one that is increasingly hindered by restrictive copyright laws and incompatible technologies.

Starting back in 2001, Creative Commons has worked to make intellectual property and copyright laws better serve the public good – drafting full legal licenses that allow authors and creators to share their work with the public.

Today, the Creative Commons Global Network includes over 500 researchers, activists, legal, education and policy advocates, and volunteers who serve as CC representatives in over 85 countries. The Commons is a rapidly expanding community of more than 1.2 billion works in 34 languages.

Our Values:

- ☑ That intellectual property laws should serve the public good,
- ☑ That we should leverage the Internet to unlock information and increase equity,
- ☑ And that knowledge should be openly accessible to all.

Our Issue Areas:



Open Education – expanding the use of openly licensed materials in higher education and K-12 classrooms



Open Culture – building the body of cultural and creative works freely available to the public



Open Access to Research – removing barriers to the free sharing of scholarly research



Open Data – facilitating scientific collaboration and innovation through the free flow of data

What we do:

Provide legal expertise

Creative Commons USA acts as a steward of the CC licenses and their definitions, provides education for practitioners around best practices and common considerations when using the licenses, and helps organizations and decision-makers understand the implications of openly licensing their work.

Offer policy guidance

Creative Commons USA offers setup consultation and support for organizations and institutions interested in, or attempting to implement open licensing policies, provides technical assistance for legislators, and guidance for policymakers around policies that encourage a more open society.

Build communities

Creative Commons USA staff attend and present at meetings, conferences, and online events for a range of communities of practice, as well as working to build leaders, strengthen like-minded coalitions, and bring new open advocates into the fold. We also work to provide forums for discussion on open issues.

Develop resources

Creative Commons USA also works to create paper and online materials to support open advocates around the country. We have created a set of openly-licensed, shareable facts sheets, FAQ, and other resources that explain the basics of copyright and licensing, build the case for open, and answer common questions.

Where to start:

Check out the CC Slack channel for groups in your field:
[slack-signup.creativecommons.org](https://creativecommons.org/slack-signup)

Consider licensing your work with a CC license:
creativecommons.org/share-your-work/

Let us know if you're interested in joining the CC-USA chapter:
bit.ly/getinvolvedCC



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www.creativecommonsusa.org



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