

VERSO guidelines

In songwriting sessions it is still common practice that the **songwriter's work is unpaid** for the time being. Hours and days of work are not remunerated and in many cases the writers even pay on top, through travel expenses, studio rent, food etc. The songwriters earn their income ONLY from the copyright revenue from the works they have written. This means months or years after the actual writing session took place and only in the event that the written work is released at all. In times of falling copyright revenue, this shortcoming is no longer adequately compensated by the expected income anymore.

In order to provide an urgently needed solution here, VERSO hereby presents **guidelines on how to deal with remuneration or expense-allowances** in most important, recurring situations.

Walk-in fee

(Allowance for writing sessions)

The Walk-In Fee is an allowance for the pure appearance of the songwriter at a session. It is by no means to be understood as a final remuneration or payment for the actual work.

(PDF attached)

Fee for use of demo-stems

Tracks/stems from the demo are often requested and used later for the final production.

Our guideline helps to find a reasonable compensation in these cases.

(PDF attached)

On-hold fee

How does one deal with a disproportionately long reservation / blocking of a song by a partner?

Answers can be found in our On-hold fee.

(PDF attached)

Important:

The models presented here are not mandatory.

Every songwriter can still decide whether, when and how they want to apply them or not.

Anyone can change and adjust or suspend the amounts appropriately to the situation.

The guidelines are designed to provide support when a writer considers it appropriate to request one of the fees in question.

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VERSO

(Vereinigung Songwriter - German Songwriters Association)

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