

Public Records Request Procedure

Use this template to FOIA/public records for [department].

Template Metadata

Field	Details
Category	Government
Owner	[Team or owner]
Version	[Version number]
Effective Date	[Date]
Review Cycle	[Monthly / Quarterly / Annual / Event-based]
Status	[Draft / In Review / Approved]

Request Submission

Describe all channels through which a citizen can submit a public records request (online portal, email, mail, in-person). Include the information required in each request and any required forms.

Item	Details	Owner	Status
[Item or requirement]	[Describe the relevant detail, evidence, or decision]	[Owner]	[Open / Complete]
[Item or requirement]	[Describe the relevant detail, evidence, or decision]	[Owner]	[Open / Complete]

Notes

[Add context, assumptions, exceptions, evidence links, screenshots, calculations, or reviewer comments.]

Processing Timeline

Explain statutory response deadlines, what constitutes an acknowledgment vs. a response, and conditions under which extensions are permitted. Use a timeline or table.

Item	Details	Owner	Status
[Item or requirement]	[Describe the relevant detail, evidence, or decision]	[Owner]	[Open / Complete]
[Item or requirement]	[Describe the relevant detail, evidence, or decision]	[Owner]	[Open / Complete]

Notes

[Add context, assumptions, exceptions, evidence links, screenshots, calculations, or reviewer comments.]

Exemptions

List categories of records exempt from disclosure in a table. For each exemption, cite the applicable statute or code section and provide a brief explanation.

Item	Details	Owner	Status
[Item or requirement]	[Describe the relevant detail, evidence, or decision]	[Owner]	[Open / Complete]
[Item or requirement]	[Describe the relevant detail, evidence, or decision]	[Owner]	[Open / Complete]

Notes

[Add context, assumptions, exceptions, evidence links, screenshots, calculations, or reviewer comments.]

Fee Schedule

Present all applicable fees for search, review, and copying in a table. Explain fee waivers for media, indigent requestors, or public interest requests.

Item	Details	Owner	Status
[Item or requirement]	[Describe the relevant detail, evidence, or decision]	[Owner]	[Open / Complete]
[Item or requirement]	[Describe the relevant detail, evidence, or decision]	[Owner]	[Open / Complete]

Notes

[Add context, assumptions, exceptions, evidence links, screenshots, calculations, or reviewer comments.]

Redaction Guidelines

Explain when and how records may be redacted rather than withheld entirely. Describe the notation system used to identify redactions and the legal basis cited on each.

Item	Details	Owner	Status
[Item or requirement]	[Describe the relevant detail, evidence, or decision]	[Owner]	[Open / Complete]
[Item or requirement]	[Describe the relevant detail, evidence, or decision]	[Owner]	[Open / Complete]

Notes

[Add context, assumptions, exceptions, evidence links, screenshots, calculations, or reviewer comments.]

Appeal Rights

Describe the requestor's right to appeal a denial, the appeals body, the deadline for filing, and what the appeal must contain. Write clearly for a general public audience. Use tables and numbered steps.

Item	Details	Owner	Status
[Item or requirement]	[Describe the relevant detail, evidence, or decision]	[Owner]	[Open / Complete]

Item	Details	Owner	Status
[Item or requirement]	[Describe the relevant detail, evidence, or decision]	[Owner]	[Open / Complete]

Notes

[Add context, assumptions, exceptions, evidence links, screenshots, calculations, or reviewer comments.]

Review and Signoff

Document review conclusions, approvals, unresolved items, and next review date.

Role	Name	Date	Notes
Preparer	[Name]	[Date]	[Notes]
Reviewer	[Name]	[Date]	[Notes]
Approver	[Name]	[Date]	[Notes]