

441—9.3(17A,22) Requests for access to records.

9.3(1) Location of record. A request for access to a record should be directed to the Director's Office, 321 East 12th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. If a request for access to a record is misdirected, department personnel will promptly forward the request to the department's records officer.

9.3(2) Office hours. Open records shall be made available during all customary office hours, which are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.

9.3(3) Request for access. Requests for access to open records may be made in writing, in person, or by telephone. Requests shall identify the particular records sought by name or description. Mail or telephone requests shall include the name, address, and telephone number of the person requesting the information.

9.3(4) Response to requests. Access to an open record will be provided upon request unless the size or nature of the request makes prompt access infeasible. If the size or nature of the request for access to an open record requires time for compliance, the custodian shall comply with the request as soon as feasible. Access to an open record may be delayed for one of the purposes authorized by Iowa Code section 22.8(4) or 22.10(4).

The custodian of a record may deny access to the record by members of the public only on the grounds that such a denial is warranted under Iowa Code sections 22.8(4) and 22.10(4), or that it is a confidential record, or that its disclosure is prohibited by a court order. Access by members of the public to a confidential record is limited by law and, therefore, may generally be provided only in accordance with the provisions of rule 441—9.4(17A,22) and other applicable provisions of law.

9.3(5) Security of record. No person may, without permission from the custodian, search or remove any record from department files. Examination and copying of department records shall be supervised by the custodian or a designee of the custodian. Records shall be protected from damage and disorganization.

9.3(6) Copying. A reasonable number of copies of an open record may be made in the department office. If photocopy equipment is not available in the department office where an open record is kept, the custodian shall permit its examination in that office and shall arrange to have copies promptly made elsewhere.

9.3(7) Fees. The department may charge fees as permitted by Iowa Code chapter 22. The department will publish a fee schedule for open records on its website. The department may charge a fee for the cost of preparing an explanation or summary of health information. The department and the subject requesting the information shall agree to the amount of any fee imposed before the department prepares the explanation or summary.

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