

681—2505.3(17A,22) Requests for access to records.**2505.3(7) Fees.**

b. Fees and costs. The agency may charge for the actual costs of producing public records. These charges may include the actual cost of making photocopies, the actual cost of media necessary to convey electronic copies of public records, and the actual costs of mailing public records. Pricing schedules for these actual costs will be prominently posted on the agency's website. The agency may also charge for the expense associated with supervising and searching for public records. These hourly charges will be based on the actual hourly rate of the person performing the task. The agency will ensure that the employee rate charged is as low as possible based on the circumstances. The agency may impose hourly charges only after the first 30 minutes of labor, which will be provided at no cost to the requester. For any additional review by the agency to address questions of confidentiality, the agency may charge the requestor the actual hourly rate of the attorney performing the review, although the first 30 minutes of the attorney's time will be provided at no cost to the requester.

c. Advance payment. When the estimated total fee exceeds \$25, the agency may require an advance payment from the requester to cover all or part of the estimated fee before proceeding with the work of gathering and reviewing potentially relevant records. If a requester has an unpaid balance from a previous records request, the agency may require the requester to pay both the unpaid balance and the current estimate, regardless of value, before proceeding with the review of public records.

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