



GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS

(Effective April 1, 2006)

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Pursuant to Oregon Revised Statutes, every person has a right to inspect any *nonexempt* public record. (See Oregon Revised Statute, Public and Private Records; Public Reports and Meetings, Chapter 192, for definitions of *exempt* public records.)

"Public record" means any writing containing information relating to the conduct of the public's business that is prepared, owned, used, or retained by a public body regardless of physical form or characteristics, including, but not limited to, handwriting, typewriting, printing, photographing, and every means of recording, including letters, words, pictures, sounds, or symbols, or combination thereof, and all papers, maps, files, facsimiles, or electronic recordings.

Inspection and copying of a public record shall be done during regular business hours at the office where the record is located, or another facility designated by the College. College records shall not leave College premises for the purposes of public record disclosure. The College may directly supervise the inspection or copying of College records, may list records inspected or copied by or at the request of a requestor, and may contemporaneously copy for the College's own purposes records inspected or copied by or at the request of the requestor. The College may provide a copy of a record in lieu of the original to protect the original record. The College may provide a redacted copy in lieu of an original record in order to delete exempt material.

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How to Request a Public Record from Umpqua Community College; there are two types of public records requests:

Informal Requests

The first type of public records request is one that is verbally submitted by the requesting party for records that are incidental, readily accessible or reproducible at negligible cost, and are typically available for **general public distribution**, such as Board minutes, agendas and sports schedules.

Formal Requests

All other public records requests must be submitted in writing and will be granted or denied in accordance with Oregon Public Records Law.

In order to determine whether or not the requested public records are exempt from disclosure, qualify for fee reduction or waiver, or if the documents meet the "public interest test," requesting party/parties must fully disclose their intended purpose of the request.

Each request must reasonably describe the records being sought. This means that a request must be specific enough to permit a college staff person who is familiar with the subject matter to locate the record in a reasonable period of time.

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1. Requesting parties shall pay a deposit of \$25 (twenty-five dollars) at the time of submitting their public records request to the College. Any overpayments to the College by the requesting party will be promptly refunded after the nonexempt public records are disclosed to the requesting party. Deposit must accompany the Public Record(s) Request Form, which is attached. Mail request form and deposit to: Umpqua Community College, Director of Accounting & Finance, PO Box 967, Roseburg, OR 97470-0226.

Umpqua Community College
PO Box 967 • 1140 Umpqua College Rd.
Roseburg, OR 97470-0226 • (541) 440-4600

2. Pursuant to ORS 192.440, the College shall provide the requesting party with an estimate, in writing, if the public records request is expected to exceed \$25.00. After receiving the estimate, requesting party shall notify the College whether it wants the College to proceed with making the public records available.
3. Before acting upon a request, the College requires that the requesting party make payment to the College for the balance of the estimated cost if it exceeds the original \$25 deposit. If the estimate is insufficient to cover reasonable costs, the College will submit an additional cost estimate, which must be paid by the requestor before the College acts further upon the request. Public records will be made available to the requesting party only after payment in full to the College. These reasonable costs shall include, but are not limited to: actual personnel costs; reproduction costs; delivery expenses; and attorney's fees, if any, for reviewing, redacting or segregating the public records into exempt and nonexempt records.
4. Requesting party shall be charged at the rate(s) established below:
 - a. If the public records request requires a nominal amount of staff time (less than 30 minutes, which includes searching, locating, retrieving, copying, transporting, conveying, etc.), copies shall be made at no charge, unless the number of copies requested exceeds 10 pages.
 - b. Records that require only a nominal time of staff time (less than 30 minutes), but the number of copies exceeds 10 pages, shall be charged for the actual cost of staff time, including fringe benefits, plus copying/delivering charges and attorney's fees, if any, for reviewing, redacting or segregating the public records into exempt and nonexempt records. Copying charges shall be at the rate of \$0.10 (ten cents) per page.
 - c. Records that require more than a nominal amount of staff time (30 minutes or more), will be provided to the requesting party for the actual cost of staff time, including fringe benefits, plus copying/delivery charges. Copying charges shall be at the rate of \$0.10 (ten cents) per page. Personnel costs shall be computed on the basis of quarter hours, rounded up, for time expended by College staff and/or the College's attorney(s). Attorney fees, if any, shall be limited to the cost of time spent by attorney(s) for the College in reviewing the public records, redacting material from the public records or segregating the public records into exempt and nonexempt records.
5. The fee may be waived or reduced if the furnishing of the copies is determined by the College to be in the public's best interest as set forth in ORS 192.440(4). Any party requesting a fee reduction or waiver shall fully cooperate with the college in identifying the reason(s) for the request.
6. The College may charge for search time even if the Custodian of the record fails to locate any records in response to the request, or even if the records located are subsequently determined to be exempt from disclosure. When the amount of staff time used exceeds the amount of the \$25.00 deposit, the requesting party's deposit shall be forfeited.
7. In most cases, the college will be able to respond to the request for public records within 21 working days. While the college shall make every attempt to respond to the request within this timeframe, requests shall not affect the operations of the college nor interfere with the regular discharge of the custodian's duties.

PUBLIC RECORD(S) REQUEST

(See attached "Guidelines for Public Records Requests" for additional instructions.)

Parties requesting public records must complete the Public Record(s) Request form and submit it, accompanied by a check made out to "Umpqua Community College" in the amount of \$25, to the Director of Accounting & Finance. This will allow the College to contact you for clarification of your request and notify you when the records are available for pickup. Requests will be accepted or denied in accordance with the College's Guidelines for Public Records Requests.

Name of Requesting Party (i.e., business name)

Date

MAILING ADDRESS OF REQUESTING PARTY:

Street

City

State

Zip

Telephone

E-Mail Address

For special consideration by the college in waiving or reducing the total fee, provide nonprofit 501(c)3 status, if applicable. Indicate # _____.

Preferred method of obtaining public records
(Please make your preference known by initialing the
corresponding line).

Requesting party will pick up

College will deliver via U.S. Postal Service

It is to everyone's advantage if requests are as precise and as narrow as possible. The requester benefits because the request can be processed more quickly and inexpensively. The college benefits because it can do a better job of responding to the request. The Oregon Public Records laws work best when both the requester and the college act cooperatively.

What is the intended purpose of your request and what public record(s) are you requesting? (Please specify.)

I certify that the statements contained in this form are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, that I have read and understood the Umpqua Community College Guidelines for Public Records Requests, and that I have attached the required \$25 deposit with this formal request. (Where fees are waived or request is denied, College will promptly return deposit payment.)

Name of Individual Requesting Records (please print)

Signature of Individual Submitting Request for Records

Date

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