

Public Records Request

[Policy 4040](#) - Public Access to District Records

[Procedure 4040P](#) - Public Access to District Records

Request to Public Records Officer

Any person wishing to inspect or copy public records of the District shall make the request in person during the District's normal office hours, or in writing by letter, fax, or email addressed to the Public Records Officer and including the following information:

- Name, address, telephone number, and email address of requestor;
- Identification of the public records adequate for the Public Records Officer or designee to locate the records; and
- The date the request is submitted to the District.

The District recommends using its Public Records Request Form when submitting a request for records. This form is available for use by requestors at the District's central office and online at Irschools.org.

Public Records Officer

For the most timely and efficient response, requests for school district records should be directed in writing to the Public Records Officer listed below, whose responsibilities include serving as a point of contact for members of the public in this process and overseeing the District's compliance with the Washington Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW, and Policy 4040.

The current Public Records Officer of the District may be reached at the District's Central Administrative Building as follows:

Dr. Miranda Bacha
Address: 209 E. Wellsandt Ave; Ritzville, WA 99169
Phone: 509-659-1660
Fax: 888-974-3546
Email: mbacha@Irschools.org

Information regarding contacting the Public Records Officer is also available at the District website at: Irschools.org.

Records Exempt from Disclosure

Some records are exempt from disclosure, in whole or in part, under a specific exemption contained in chapter 42.56 RCW or another statute which exempts or prohibits disclosure of specific information or records.

If the District believes that a record is exempt from disclosure and should be withheld, the Public Records Officer will state in writing the specific exemption (and statutory section) which applies and provide a brief explanation of how the exemption applies to the record being withheld or redacted. This exemption and explanation will be provided to the requestor in a withholding index or log.

If only a portion of a record is exempt from disclosure, but the remainder is not exempt, the Public Records Officer will redact the exempt portions, provide the nonexempt portions, and indicate to the requestor why portions of the record are being redacted in the withholding index or log.

List of Laws Exempting or Prohibiting Disclosure

Pursuant to RCW 42.56.070 (2), these rules contain a list of laws—other than those specifically listed in the Washington Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW—which may exempt disclosure of certain public records or portions of records. The District has identified the following laws:

- The Family Educational and Privacy Rights Act (FERPA), 20 USC § 1232g (regarding student educational records);
- Washington State Student Education Records Law, RCW 28A.605.030;
- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. § 1400 et. seq. and 34 C.F.R. Part 300 (protecting the confidentiality of personally identifying information contained in student records of students with disabilities).
- Privileged communications and attorney work product, such as set forth in Chapter 5.60 RCW;
- Criminal Records Privacy Act (CRPA), Chapter 10.97, RCW;
- Information on students receiving free or reduced lunch, 42 USC § 1758(b)(6);
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), 45 CFR parts 160-164 (regarding health care information privacy and security);
- Abuse of Children – Protection and Procedure, RCW 26.44.010; RCW 26.44.030(9);
- Notification of Juvenile Offenders, RCW 13.04.155(3);
- Examination question for teachers or pupils prior to the examination, Questions, RCW 28A.635.040;
- Public Law 98-24, Section 527 of the Public Health Services Act, 41 USC § 290dd-2 (confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records);
- United States and Washington Constitutional provisions including, but not limited to, the right of privacy and freedom of association.

In addition to these exemptions, RCW 42.56.070 (9) prohibits providing access to lists of individuals requested for commercial purposes, and the District may not do so unless specifically authorized or directed by law.

The above list is for informational purposes only and is not intended to cover all possible exemptions from the public records law. The above list includes only exemptions which may be in addition to those set forth in Chapter 42.56 RCW. Under appropriate circumstances, the District may rely upon other legal exemptions which are not set forth above or contained within the public disclosure law.

Cost of Printed Copies and Mailing

Please refer to Procedure - Public Access to District Records [4040P](#) to view the description of all the costs associated with fulfilling a public records request.

The cost of providing photocopies or printed copies of electronic records is 15 cents per page. Alternatively, if the District determines and documents that the fees allowed under this procedure are clearly equal to, or more than, two dollars, the District may instead charge a flat fee of two dollars to provide the records. If the District charges a flat fee for the first installment,

the District will not charge an additional flat fee or a per page fee for any subsequent installments. Payment may be made by cash, check, or money order payable to the District.

The District may also charge actual costs of mailing, including the cost of the shipping container or envelope.

The Public Records Officer or designee may require the payment of the remainder of the copying costs before providing all the records, or the payment of the costs of copying an installment before providing that installment.

Cost for Electronic Records

The cost for providing electronic records is as follows:

1. Ten cents per page for public records scanned into an electronic format or for the use of District equipment to scan the records;
2. Five cents per each four electronic files or attachment uploaded to email, cloud-based data storage service, or other means of electronic delivery;
3. Ten cents per gigabyte for the transmission of public records in an electronic format or for the use of District equipment to send the records electronically; and
4. The actual cost of any digital storage media or device provided by the District, the actual cost of any container or envelope used to mail the copies to the requestor, and the actual postage or delivery charge.

The District will take reasonable steps to provide the records in the most efficient manner available to the District in its normal operations;

Alternatively, if the District determines and documents that the fees allowed under this procedure are clearly equal to, or more, than two dollars, the District may instead charge a flat fee of two dollars to provide the records. If the District charges a flat fee for the first installment, the District will not charge an additional flat fee or a per page fee for any subsequent installments.

Normal District Office hours are Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The District Office observes as holidays and is closed on the following days:

- Labor Day
- Veteran's Day
- Thanksgiving Day and the day after
- Christmas Eve and Christmas Day
- New Year's Eve and New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King Day
- President's Day
- Memorial Day
- Juneteenth
- Independence Day and the day after