

RECORDS ACCESS AND RETENTION

Policy

The Board of Directors has adopted a policy on Public Inspection and Access to Records and the Public Access to Information Returns described earlier in the Section on Government Returns. The Commission is subject to the California Public Records Act. All requests must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director. Records related to pending litigation and personnel, medical, or similar files which would constitute an invasion of personal privacy are examples of records that are exempted from disclosure.

The Commission will maintain the original financial records, supporting documents, statistical records, and other documents according to the contract and grant conditions. The Commission retains records as required by law and destroys them when appropriate. The destruction of financial records must be approved by the Fiscal Supervisor.

As a general guideline, all financial records will be retained for five years. In the event of litigation or a dispute, this period will be extended.

Payroll timesheets will be retained for seven years, along with payroll records such as W-2s, 941s and EDD reports. However, personnel files need to be held for three years after termination.

Real property and equipment acquired with Federal grant funds must be retained for three years beyond the date of disposition.

The formal records retention policy of the Commission is as follows:

Audit reports	Permanently
Bank reconciliations	5 Years
Bank Statements	5 Years
Cancelled Checks	5 Years
Contracts, mortgages, notes and leases:	
Expired	5 Years
Still in effect	Permanently
Correspondence:	
General	2 Years
Legal and important matters only	Permanently
Routine with customers and/or vendors	2 Years
Deeds, mortgages and bills of sales	Permanently
Duplicate deposit slips	5 Years
Employment applications	3 Years
Financial statements:	
Year end	Permanently
Other	Optional
Garnishments	7 Years
General ledgers/year end trial balance and subsidiary ledgers	5 Years
Insurance policies (expired)	3 Years
Current Insurance records (policies, claims, etc.)	Permanently
Internal reports	3 Years

Inventories of products, materials and supplies	5 Years
Invoices (to customers, from vendors)	5 Years
Journals	5 Years
Minute books of directors, bylaws and charters	Permanently
Payroll records and summaries	7 Years
Personnel records (terminated)	3 Years
Petty cash vouchers	5 Years
Property records (incl. depreciation schedules)	3 Years Beyond Date of Disposition
Purchase orders	5 Years
Retirement and pension records	7 Years
Sales records	7 Years
Time sheets/cards	7 Years
Withholding tax statements	7 Years

The Commission will maintain the appropriate software applications to access computerized accounting and financial records for the same time periods, if the information is not available in print.

Authorized representatives of awarding agencies have the right to access books, documents, papers, other Commission records, and personnel for interviews that are pertinent to the grant or contract award.