

General Policy Regarding Public Information Requests

This policy shall be construed and applied in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of the Texas Public Information Act.

All requests for information must be in writing.

It is the policy of JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER to generally respond to all requests for public information as promptly as reasonably possible, without delay, and without unreasonable interference to JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER's immediate business.

Inability to Produce Public Information

If the JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER cannot produce public information within ten business days of receipt of the request because of the voluminous nature of the request, due to other necessary operations, or otherwise, then the JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER shall provide notice to the requestor specifying the date and hour within a reasonable time the information will be available.

If the requested information is not available because it is in immediate active use or storage, then JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER [or NAME OF TITLE] shall provide notice to the requestor specifying the date and hour within a reasonable time the information will be available.

Limitations on Personnel Time

After JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER personnel collectively has spent 36 hours of time producing public information for the same requestor during a fiscal year, JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER shall charge the requestor for any additional personnel time spent producing information for the requestor, in accordance with law.

If, in connection with a request for public information, the cumulative amount of personnel time spent complying with requests for public information from the same requestor equals or exceeds the 36-hour limit, JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER shall, within ten days of the date of the request, provide the requestor with a written estimate of the total cost, including materials, personnel time, and overhead expenses, necessary to comply with the request. The amount of this charge shall be established in accordance with the applicable rules prescribed by the Attorney General of the State of Texas.

The limitation on response time and recovery of cost provisions set forth in this section do not apply if the requestor:

- a) is a representative of a radio or television station that holds a license issued by the Federal Communications Commission; or
- b) is a representative of a newspaper that is qualified to publish legal notices or is a free newspaper of general circulation and that is published at least once a week and available and of interest to the general public in connection with the dissemination of news; or
- c) is an elected official of the United States, this state, or a political subdivision of this state; or
- d) is a representative of a publicly funded legal services organization that is an exempt entity under Section 5012(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

Except as specifically authorized by law, all requests for public information shall be treated uniformly without regard to the position or occupation of the requestor or the person on whose behalf the request is made.

Reasonable Fees & Copy Charges

The charges herein are intended to recover costs associated with providing copies of public information, and are based on estimated average costs to governmental bodies across the state. When actual costs are 25 percent higher than those used in these rules, governmental bodies other than agencies of the state may request an exemption in accordance with 1 TAC 70.4.

Copy charges are as follows:

- 1. Standard-paper copy. The charge for standard-paper copies reproduced by means of an office machine copier or a computer printer is \$.10 per page or part of a page. Each side that has recorded information is considered a separate page.
- 2. Nonstandard copy. The charges for nonstandard copies are:
 - a. Diskette — \$1.00
 - b. Magnetic tape — actual cost
 - c. Data cartridge — actual cost
 - d. Tape cartridge — actual cost
 - e. Rewritable CD (CD-RW) — \$1.00
 - f. Non-rewritable CD (CD-R) — \$1.00
 - g. Digital video disc (DVD) — \$3.00
 - h. JAZ drive — actual cost
 - i. Other electronic media — actual cost

- j. VHS video cassette — \$2.50
- k. Audio cassette — \$1.00
- l. Oversize paper copy (e.g., 11" x 17", greenbar, bluebar, not including maps and photographs using specialty paper) — \$.50
- m. Specialty paper (e.g., Mylar, blueprint, blueline, map, photographic) — actual cost

Personnel charges are as follows:

1. If a particular request requires the services of a programmer in order to execute an existing program or to create a new program so that requested information may be accessed and copied, JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER may charge for the programmer's time. The hourly charge for a programmer is \$28.50 an hour. Only programming services shall be charged at this hourly rate.
2. The charge for labor costs incurred in processing a request for public information is \$15.00 an hour. The labor charge includes the actual time to locate, compile, manipulate data, and reproduce the requested information.
3. A labor charge shall not be billed in connection with complying with requests that are for 50 or fewer pages of paper records, unless the documents to be copied are located in two or more separate buildings that are not physically connected to each other or a remote storage facility. For purposes of this provision, two buildings connected by a covered or open sidewalk, an elevated or underground passageway, or a similar facility, are not considered to be separate buildings.
4. A labor charge shall not be recovered for any time spent by an attorney, legal assistant, or any other person who reviews the requested information:
 - a. To determine whether JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER will raise any exceptions to disclosure of the requested information under Government Code, Subchapter C, Chapter 552; or
 - b. To research or prepare a request for a ruling by the attorney general's office pursuant to section 552.301 of the Government Code.
5. When confidential information pursuant to a mandatory exception of the Act is mixed with public information in the same page, a labor charge may be recovered for time spent to redact, blackout, or otherwise obscure confidential information in order to release the public information. A labor charge shall not be made for redacting confidential information for requests of 50 or fewer pages, unless the request also qualifies as a labor charge pursuant to Government Code 552.261(a)(1) or (2).

Overhead charges are as follows:

1. Whenever any labor charge is applicable to a request, JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER may include in the charges direct and indirect costs, in addition to the

specific labor charge. This overhead charge would cover such costs as depreciation of capital assets, rent, maintenance and repair, utilities, and administrative overhead. If JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER chooses to recover such costs, a charge shall be made in accordance with the methodology described in item 3 below. Although an exact calculation of costs will vary, the use of a standard charge will avoid complication in calculating such costs and will provide uniformity for charges made statewide.

2. An overhead charge shall not be made for requests for copies of 50 or fewer pages of standard paper records unless the request also qualifies for a labor charge pursuant to Government Code 552.261(a)(1) or (2).
3. The overhead charge shall be computed at 20 percent of the charge made to cover any labor costs associated with a particular request. For example, if one hour of labor is used for a particular request, the formula would be as follows: Labor charge for locating, compiling, and reproducing, $\$15.00 \times .20 = \3.00 ; or programming labor charge, $\$28.50 \times .20 = \5.70 . If a request requires one hour of labor charge for locating, compiling, and reproducing information ($\$15.00$ per hour); and one hour of programming labor charge ($\$28.50$ per hour), the combined overhead would be: $\$15.00 + \$28.50 = \$43.50 \times .20 = \8.70 .

Microfiche and microfilm charges are as follows:

1. If JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER already has information that exists on microfiche or microfilm and has copies available for sale or distribution, the charge for a copy must not exceed the cost of its reproduction. If no copies of the requested microfiche or microfilm are available and the information on the fiche or film can be released in its entirety, JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER should make a copy of the fiche or film. The charge for a copy shall not exceed the cost of reproduction.
2. If only a master copy of information in microform is maintained, the charge is \$.10 per page for standard-size paper copies plus any applicable labor and overhead charge for more than 50 copies.

Remote document retrieval charges are as follows:

1. Due to limited on-site capacity of storage of documents, it is frequently necessary to store information that is not in current use in remote storage locations. Every effort should be made by JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER to store current records on-site. To the extent that the retrieval of documents results in a charge to comply with a request, it is permissible to recover costs of such services for requests that qualify for labor charges under current law.
2. If JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER has a contract with a commercial records storage company, whereby the private company charges a fee to locate, retrieve, deliver, and return to storage the needed record(s), no additional labor charge shall be factored in for time spent locating documents at the storage location by the private company's personnel. If after delivery to JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER, the

boxes must still be searched for records that are responsive to the request, a labor charge is allowed in accordance with item 2 under personnel charges, above.

Computer resource charges are as follows:

1. The computer resource charge is a utilization charge for computers based on the amortized cost of acquisition, lease, operation, and maintenance of computer resources, which might include, but is not limited to, some or all of the following: central processing units (CPUs), servers, disk drives, local area networks (LANs), printers, tape drives, other peripheral devices, communications devices, software, and system utilities.
2. These computer resource charges are not intended to substitute for cost recovery methodologies or charges made for purposes other than responding to public information requests.
3. The charges in this section are averages based on a survey of governmental bodies with a broad range of computer capabilities. JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER has determined the following category(ies) of computer system(s) used by governmental bodies to fulfill the public information request most closely fits its existing system(s) and set its charge accordingly:

<u>Type of System</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Mainframe	\$10.00 per CPU minute
Midsized	\$ 1.50 per CPU minute
Client/Server	\$ 2.20 per clock hour
PC or LAN	\$ 1.00 per clock hour

4. The charge made to recover the computer utilization cost is the actual time the computer takes to execute a particular program times the applicable rate. The CPU charge is not meant to apply to programming or printing time; rather, it is solely to recover costs associated with the actual time required by the computer to execute a program. This time, called CPU time, can be read directly from the CPU clock, and most frequently will be a matter of seconds. If programming is required to comply with a particular request, the appropriate charge that may be recovered for programming time is described above, at Personnel Charges. No charge should be made for computer print-out time. For example, if a mainframe computer is used, and the processing time is 20 seconds, the charges would be as follows: $\$10.00 / 3 = \3.33 ; or $\$10.00 / (60 / 20) = \3.33 .

The actual cost of miscellaneous supplies, such as labels, boxes, and other supplies used to produce the requested information, may be added to the total charge for public information.

Governmental bodies may add any related postal or shipping expenses that are necessary to transmit the reproduced information to the requesting party.

Pursuant to Office of the Comptroller of Public Accounts' rules, sales tax shall not be added on charges for public information. (34 TAC, Part 1, Chapter 3, Subchapter O, Sections 3.341 and 3.342).

If JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER ever excepts payment by credit card for copies of public information and JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER is charged a transaction fee by the credit card company, JUBILEE ACADEMIC CENTER may recover that fee from the requestor.