

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Public Records Requirements**

Attachment 4

1. Public Records.

- a. If the Agreement exceeds \$35,000.00, and if Grantee is acting on behalf of Department in its performance of services under the Agreement, Grantee must allow public access to all documents, papers, letters, or other material, regardless of the physical form, characteristics, or means of transmission, made or received by Grantee in conjunction with the Agreement (Public Records), unless the Public Records are exempt from section 24(a) of Article I of the Florida Constitution or section 119.07(1), F.S.
- b. The Department may unilaterally terminate the Agreement if Grantee refuses to allow public access to Public Records as required by law.

2. Additional Public Records Duties of Section 119.0701, F.S., If Applicable.

For the purposes of this paragraph, the term “contract” means the “Agreement.” If Grantee is a “contractor” as defined in section 119.0701(1)(a), F.S., the following provisions apply and the contractor shall:

- a. Keep and maintain Public Records required by Department to perform the service.
- b. Upon request, provide Department with a copy of requested Public Records or allow the Public Records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in Chapter 119, F.S., or as otherwise provided by law.
- c. A contractor who fails to provide the Public Records to Department within a reasonable time may be subject to penalties under section 119.10, F.S.
- d. Ensure that Public Records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from Public Records disclosure requirements are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the contract term and following completion of the contract if the contractor does not transfer the Public Records to Department.
- e. Upon completion of the contract, transfer, at no cost, to Department all Public Records in possession of the contractor or keep and maintain Public Records required by Department to perform the service. If the contractor transfers all Public Records to Department upon completion of the contract, the contractor shall destroy any duplicate Public Records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from Public Records disclosure requirements. If the contractor keeps and maintains Public Records upon completion of the contract, the contractor shall meet all applicable requirements for retaining Public Records. All Public Records stored electronically must be provided to Department, upon request from Department’s custodian of Public Records, in a format specified by Department as compatible with the information technology systems of Department. These formatting requirements are satisfied by using the data formats as authorized in the contract or Microsoft Word, Outlook, Adobe, or Excel, and any software formats the contractor is authorized to access.

f. IF THE CONTRACTOR HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, F.S., TO THE CONTRACTOR’S DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO THE CONTRACT, CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT’S CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT:

Telephone: (850) 245-2118
Email: public.services@floridadep.gov
Mailing Address: Department of Environmental Protection
ATTN: Office of Ombudsman and Public Services
Public Records Request
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 49
Tallahassee, Florida 32399