
[FOIA Home](#)

[Making a FOIA Request](#)

[FOIA Library](#)

[Records Management](#)

[Mandatory Declassification Review](#)

[About Us/Contact Us](#)

[FOIA Home](#) > [Making a FOIA Request](#)

Making a FOIA Request



Please note that we only accept FOIA requests for records maintained by the U.S. Department of State.

▶ [What is the Freedom of Information Act \(FOIA\)?](#)

▶ [What is the Privacy Act?](#)

▶ [Records maintained by the U. S. Department of State:](#)

[Get copies of Passport Records](#) 

Request passport records directly from the Passport Office.

[Request Office of Inspector General \(OIG\) records](#) 

For OIG related documents, go directly to the OIG FOIA site.

[How to check the status of your visa application online](#) 

Check the status of your immigrant or nonimmigrant visa.

Making an Online FOIA Request/Privacy Act Request

The most efficient way to make a FOIA request is using the Public Access Link (PAL) online portal.

PAL allows you to:

- Request U. S. Department of State Records
- Request Personal Records
- Request Visa Records

- Access previously requested records
- Check the status of your request

Request Records Online
Public Access Link (PAL)

Emailing, Mailing or Faxing a FOIA Request:

- ▶ [Making a FOIA Request](#)
- ▶ [Making a request for Personal Records](#)
- ▶ [Making a request for Visa Records](#)
- ▶ [What happens after you make a Request](#)
- ▶ [Asking that my FOIA request be processed Faster \(expedited\)](#)
- ▶ [Amending a Request](#)
- ▶ [FOIA Appeals](#)

Contact Us

If you have any questions regarding the status of a request, you may contact the FOIA Requester Service Center at (202) 261-8484 or email FOIAStatus@state.gov.

Quick Links

- [FOIA Regulations](#) 
- [FOIA Logs](#)
- [Fees](#)
- [FOIA Appeals](#)
- [FOIA Exemptions](#)
- [System of Records Notices \(SORN\)](#) 
- [Privacy Impact Assessments \(PIA\)](#) 

Last modified on: 03/05/2025