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Making a FOIA Request

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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.

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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](#)

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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](#)

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[System of Records Notices (SORN)](#) ⧉

[Privacy Impact Assessments (PIA)](#) ⧉

Last modified on: 03/05/2025