



MINNESOTA STATE

March 2025

Office of General Counsel

Guide to Accessing Public Data

System Office Guide to Accessing Public Data

This guide is intended to facilitate timely and efficient responses to requests for public information from the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system office. It addresses such questions as who to contact for access to different kinds of public information, and how to make a request.

College/University Data Requests

If you are seeking public information about one of the system's colleges or universities or its personnel, please contact the college or university directly. General contact information for each of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities is available on the [Minnesota State Colleges and Universities website](#).

A list of system Data Practices Compliance Officials for each college and university is available on the [Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Office of General Counsel's webpage](#).

Public Information About the System Office

Much public information about the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, the Board of Trustees, system office, and our colleges and universities is available on the [Minnesota State Colleges and Universities website](#).

Requesting and Accessing Public Information from The System Office

[Websites for divisions within the system office](#) are available online at the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities website. Refer to the guidelines below if you are unable to locate the information you are seeking through one of those websites.

Requesting and Accessing Public Information About Minnesota State Employees

Public data on Minnesota State employees is available at [Minnesota Management and Budget's State Employee Salary Database](#), [the State of Minnesota White Pages](#), and online campus employee directories.

General Access Guidelines

- » Any member of the public is allowed to view public information without charge.
- » Viewing of public information will be at reasonable times and places.
- » Viewing does not include receiving copies of information unless providing a copy is the only way for us to provide viewing.
- » Viewing includes remote access and the ability of the public to download public data on the public's own computer, but in some cases, we may charge for such access as permitted by law.
- » We will provide access to public data as soon as we reasonably can, but we may not be able to provide the information you want immediately because we need time to locate or copy the information.
- » We are not required to provide data that we do not keep.
- » Upon request, we will provide copies of public data. We will charge for copies in accordance with applicable law. [Information about system office copy charges is available online.](#)
- » You are not required to identify yourself unless we need the information for some purpose such as sending the data or clarifying your request; you don't have to tell us why you want the information unless we need it to comply with applicable laws.
- » Upon request, we will explain the content and meaning of the data you requested.
- » If we store the public data you want on a computer, you may ask that we provide a copy to you in electronic form, and we will do so if we reasonably can. We do not have to provide the data in a format or program that is different from how we store it, but if we agree to do so, we will charge you for the cost of providing the copy.
- » If we determine that the data you request are not public, we will notify you and will tell you which law applies. If you ask, we will provide our decision in writing.

Requesting Specific Public Information

Put Your Request in Writing

Your request should be as specific as possible, describing the information you want as clearly as you can. We may need some time to locate the information you are requesting; clearly stating your request will help us to respond more efficiently. Please state that you are making a request under the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act.

Send Your Request to the Appropriate Person

Contact the individual listed below for the subject matter you are seeking. Written requests should be directed to the appropriate individual, at the following address:

Minnesota State Colleges and Universities
30 7th St. E., Suite 350,
St. Paul, MN 55101-7804

Media Requests

Noelle Hawton, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer

E-mail: noelle.hawton@minnstate.edu

Personnel Records* (system office personnel data only)

Deb Gehrke, Human Resources Director

E-mail: deb.gehrke@minnstate.edu

*Note: For your convenience, you may use the [Request for Public Information form](#), but it is not mandatory.

Board of Trustees Records

Kari Campbell, Executive Director

Fax: 651-201-1705

E-mail: Kari.Campbell@minnstate.edu

Internal Auditing Records

Amy Jorgenson, Chief Audit Officer

Fax: 651-296-8488

E-mail: amy.jorgenson@minnstate.edu

All Other Record Requests

Daniel McCabe, Assistant General Counsel

System Data Practices Compliance Official

Phone: 651-314-3428

E-mail: daniel.mccabe@minnstate.edu

TTY Phone: For TTY communication, contact Minnesota Relay Service at 7-1-1 or 1-800-627-3529; provide Minnesota Relay Services with the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities main reception number, 651-201-1800

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