



Australian Government

Office of the Australian  
Information Commissioner

# IC Request Form

Making an application for an Information Commissioner request

## Quick Checklist

The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner can grant extensions of time to agencies who are processing Freedom of Information requests.

This form can be used by agencies to request an extension of time to process an FOI request or to notify an agreed extension of time. For details of the information required or the process for extensions of time please see our publication "Notifying and requesting extensions of FOI processing time from the Information Commissioner" at

[www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-resources/freedom-of-information-agency-resources/foi-agency-resource-13-extension-of-time-for-processing-requests](http://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-resources/freedom-of-information-agency-resources/foi-agency-resource-13-extension-of-time-for-processing-requests)

If you wish to request a REVIEW of an FOI decision then there is another form. Please see our webpage <http://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-reviews> for details.

If you wish to COMPLAIN about the handling of your FOI application there is another form. Please see our webpage <http://www.oaic.gov.au/freedom-of-information/foi-complaints> for details.

If you have difficulties completing this form please send an email to [enquiries@oaic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@oaic.gov.au) or ring our enquiries line on 1300 363 992.

### Your personal information

If you have any questions about the personal information we collect and how we will handle your information, please contact the OAIC or see our [privacy policy](#) available on our website.

### Use and disclosure of your information

We will use the information you have provided to assess the application you have made to us.

### Collection of your information

We may need to collect further information from you in order to handle the matter. If you do not provide this information to the OAIC, it may affect how we handle the matter.

### Accessing your information

If you would like to access to the information about you that the OAIC holds, please contact the enquiries line. More information is available on the [Access our information](#) page on our website.

Please select one of the following options. \*

- I am submitting a notification of or request for extension of time on behalf of an agency
- I am submitting a notification of or request for extension of time on behalf of a Minister



## Getting Started

### Before you start

- You can save this form to your computer so you can come back to it later
- Fields marked with an asterix (\*) must be completed before you can submit the form
- You can attach documents in support of your request (ie Word documents) to the Request Details section of this form
- If you have trouble completing this form, please send an email to [enquiries@oaic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@oaic.gov.au)
- This form is sent to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner via a secure system to ensure your personal information is protected.

### What happens to your application?

- Staff of the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner will assess the information you have provided and decide the appropriate next steps. We will then contact you.
- We will use the information you have provided to assess your request. We will usually disclose the information you give us to third parties relevant to your request. In case of a challenge to a decision by this Office, we may need to disclose some information to a review body, for example a court or tribunal.
- Your personal information will be used and stored in accordance with the Australian Privacy Principles.

You can also submit a request in writing, by [email](#), fax, phone or in person by visiting one of our offices.

## Details

Please note we are unable to accept anonymous requests. You must provide an email or postal address so that we can send you notices.

Which agency are you representing? \*

- Attorney-General's Department
- Australian Customs and Border Protection Service
- Australian Federal Police
- Australian Securities and Investments Commission
- Australian Taxation Office
- Commonwealth Ombudsman
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Communications
- Department of Defence
- Department of Education
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Department of Human Services
- Department of Immigration and Border Protection
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Department of Employment
- Other

**Your details**

Title \*

First Name \*

Last Name \*

Phone (daytime) \*

Email \*

**FOI applicant's details**

Is the FOI applicant \*

- an individual  
 an organisation

What is the name of the FOI applicant this request for extension of time applies to?

Title \*

First Name \*

Last Name \*

**The applicant's contact details**

(You must provide at least one contact method for the applicant. Our preference is an email address or phone number.)

Preferred contact method \*

- Email       Phone       Post       Other

Email

Phone (daytime)

Mobile

Postal Address

City

State

Postcode

Other contact details (eg. Fax or international address)

Is the FOI applicant represented? \*

- Yes       No

**FOI Reference number**

Your FOI reference for this application

Please select the type of extension you are seeking \*

- Extension of time notification with the agreement of the applicant (s15AA)  
 Extension of time to process complex or voluminous requests (s15AB)  
 Extension where decision not made within time (s15AC)  
 Extension where internal review decision not made within time (s54D)  
 Extension where request for amendment or annotation not made within time (s51DA)

Has the statutory time period for processing already run out? That is, has a deemed decision already been made?

Yes  No

You are applying for an extension of time on the grounds that the statutory period is insufficient to adequately deal with an FOI request because the request is complex or voluminous. You must provide satisfactory information to demonstrate that the request is complex or voluminous and that the extension of time is justified.

Date you received FOI request \*

16/07/2018

Requested length of extension (ie number of days) \*

30

Current date decision is due \*

31/08/2018

New decision date if extension granted \*

01/10/2018

Did you approach the applicant for an extension of time under s15AA?

Yes  No

What was the outcome? Did the applicant raise any concerns about delays?

The applicant agreed to an extension until 31 August 2018.

Has the processing period been extended as a result of other statutory provisions, or are you considering such an extension? (For instance, through applicant's agreement, consultation provisions or provisions about charges or the scope of the request that impact on the statutory due date)

Yes  No

Please explain the reasons for the request and why an extension would be justified. Requests for longer extensions of time (more than 30 days) will require greater justification. You will need to address:

- why the request is considered complex or voluminous
- work already undertaken in processing the request
- work required to finalise the request
- work undertaken on this request following any earlier extension granted
- any consultation with the applicant concerning length of time
- whether other agencies or parties have an interest in the request
- measures that will be taken to ensure a decision will be made with the period of extension granted and to keep the applicant informed about progress

Initial searches resulted in a section 24AB consultation process. The applicant was advised the request in its original form would result in a diversion of resources (noting a total of 60 hours of processing time would be required). The applicant asked the Department to create a document under FOI for legal expenditure data relating to 3 Financial Years. The applicant was advised that data is not yet available for the 17/18FY, but that it was for the 15/16 & 16/17 FYs. The applicant revised the scope of the request to be for the 15/16 FY.

Although I have decided that this removes the diversion issue, the request remains voluminous. I estimate that at a minimum, it will still require around 30 hours to process the request in its revised form. I have spoken with the business area undertaking some of this task and they advised some additional information off-site will need to be recalled as some data from the 15/16FY is not readily available. The officer assisting with this task was away while we undertook the 24AB consultation, but has since returned and taken steps to assist. The business area is unable to create the document requested, so this task will fall upon me to finalise. I will be supplied with the data and I will need time to gather it and format in the style requested by the applicant.

The attached 24AB notice provides you with context around the work involved in extracting and assessing the data. I am also considering ways in which I can reveal the information without having to apply exemptions under the FOI Act.

I also attach information that suggests the applicant may not be agreeable to this extension. It is not a quick request to action and further time is needed to ensure the document requested is suitable and responsive to the terms of the request.

## Supporting Information

You may also attach other relevant information that supports your application. We would prefer any supporting documents be submitted electronically. Submitting attachments in hardcopy may result in delays in processing your application.