

## Copying Charges

### **How much can I charge for medical records in Georgia?**

The Georgia Office of Planning and Budget (OPB) pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 31-33-3, calculates an annual inflation adjustment for the costs related to medical record retrieval, certification and copying.

**Effective July 1, 2009**

Search, Retrieval, and Other Direct Administrative Costs	Up to	\$24.88
Certification Fee	Up to per record	\$9.70
Copying Costs for Records in Paper Form	Per page for pages 1-20	\$0.97
	Per page for pages 21 - 100	\$0.83
	Per page for pages over 100	\$0.66

**Note – Rates do not apply to records requests necessary to make or complete an application for a disability benefits program.**

### Notes

Also, please note that the State Board of Worker's Compensation has instituted medical record retrieval rates that apply specifically to worker's compensation cases. For information on those rates, please contact Martine Schweitzer at the State Board of Worker's Compensation at 404-656-2048 or visit the website at <http://sbwc.georgia.gov>.

The HIPAA Privacy Rule prohibits the charge for Search, Retrieval and Other Direct Administrative Costs from being assessed against the patient or the patient's personal representative who requests medical records. The HIPAA prohibition does not apply to requests by other persons.

The HIPAA Privacy Rule prohibits providers from charging to convert medical records into a form or format requested by the individual, if it is readily producible in such form or format, or into a readable hard copy form or other agreed upon form or format. However, if the individual wants a copy of a non-paper medical record, then a Georgia hospital may charge a reasonable, cost-based fee for copying the record, including the cost of supplies and copying labor.

Physicians and hospitals may charge the actual cost (i.e., postage) of mailing the requested records.

Physicians may charge for summaries of health records.

A physician or hospital may not assess copying costs in the case of a person seeking records for the purpose of applying for disability benefits coverage.

To obtain the latest annual updates, contact the OPB at 404-656-4337 or on-line at [www.opb.state.ga.us](http://www.opb.state.ga.us).

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