

**EFFINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**ILLINOIS FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT POLICY**

- I. A brief description of our public body is as follows:
- A. Our purpose is to provide materials and services for the recreational, social, informational, and educational needs of the community.
  - B. An organizational chart is attached.
  - C. The total amount of our operating budget for FY24 is: \$ 1,306,257.  
Funding sources are property and personal property replacement taxes, state and federal grants, fines, charges, interest, and donations. Tax levies are:
    - 1. Corporate purposes (for general operating expenditures)
    - 2. IMRF (provides for employee's retirement and related expenses)
    - 3. Social Security (provides for employee's FICA costs and related expenses)
    - 4. Medicare
    - 5. Audit (for annual audit and related expenses)
    - 6. Maintenance (for maintaining the building)
    - 7. Working Cash (for internal loans)
    - 8. Worker's Compensation
    - 9. Unemployment Insurance
    - 10. Insurance and Risk Management (liability insurance and safety equipment/improvements)
  - D. The office is located at this address: 200 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Effingham, IL.
  - E. We have approximately the following number of persons employed:

1.	Full-time	5
2.	Part-time	12
  - F. The following organization exercises control over our policies and procedures: *Effingham Public Library Board of Trustees*, which meets monthly on the third Monday of each month, 6:00 p.m., at the library.  
  
Its members are: Matt Greider and Jared Chesnut, co-Presidents; Charlene Topel, Secretary; Open, Treasurer; Lisa Koerner, Steve Miller, Dennis Presley, Hank Stephens, and Rod Wiethop.
  - G. We are required to report and be answerable for our operations to:  
*Illinois State Library*, Springfield, Illinois. Its members are: State Librarian, Alexi Giannoulas (Secretary of State); Director of State Library, Greg McCormick; and various other staff.
- II. You may request the information and the records available to the public in the following manner:
- A. Use request form (see attached).
  - B. Your request should be directed to the following individual: Library Director, Amanda McKay, FOIA officer.
  - C. You must indicate whether you have a "commercial purpose"<sup>1</sup> in your request.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Commercial purpose" is defined in the Act as "the use of any part of a public record or records, or information derived from public records, in any form for sale, resale, or solicitation or advertisement for sales or services."

- D. You must specify the records requested to be disclosed for inspection or to be copied. If you desire that any records be certified, you must specify which ones.
- E. To reimburse us our actual costs for reproducing and certifying (if requested) the records, you will be charged the following fees:
  - There is a \$1.00 charge for each certification of records.
  - There is no charge for the first fifty (50) pages of black and white text either letter or legal size;
  - There is a \$.15 per page charge for copied records in excess of 50 pages;
  - The actual copying cost of color copies and other sized copies will be charged.
- F. If the records are kept in electronic format, you may request a specific format and *if feasible*, they will be so provided, but if not, they will be provided either in the electronic format in which they are kept (and you would be required to pay the actual cost of the medium only, i.e. disc, diskette, tape, etc.) or in paper as you select.
- G. The office will respond to a written request within five (5) working days or sooner if possible. An extension of an additional five (5) working days may be necessary to properly respond.
- H. Records may be inspected or copied. If inspected, an employee must be present throughout the inspection.
- I. The place and times where the records will be available are as follows:
  - Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (excluding library holidays)
  - Effingham Public Library, Administrative Offices

III. Certain types of information maintained by us are exempt from inspection and copying. However, the following types or categories of records are maintained under our control:

- A. Monthly Financial Statements
- B. Annual Receipts and Disbursements Reports
- C. Levy Resolutions
- D. Operating Budgets
- E. Annual Audits
- F. Minutes of the Board of Library Trustees
- G. Library Policies, including Materials Selection
- H. Library Statistics
- I. Adopted Ordinances and Resolutions of the Board
- J. Annual Reports to the Illinois State Library
- K. Grants Reports
- L. Vendor Information
- M. Long-range, technical services and marketing plans

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However, there are exceptions for news media, non-profits, scientific and academic organizations for disseminate news, articles or opinions of public interest, or research or education.

<sup>2</sup> In the event a “commercial interest” is involved, additional questions can be asked of the requestor by the public body FOIA officer in order to determine the classification, then the public body has up to 21 days to respond and either deny the request based on exemptions or undue burden; or estimate the time and cost of the copying from prepayment; or provide the documents requested.

**EFFINGHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

Requestor's Name (or business name, if applicable)	Date of Request	Phone number
Street Address	Certification requested:  _____ Yes                      _____ No	
City	State	Zip
Description of Records Requested:  _____		
Is the reason for this request a "commercial purpose" as defined in the Act?    ___ Yes    ___ No		
<i>Library Response (Requestor does not fill in below this line)</i>		
A P P R O V E D	<input type="checkbox"/> The documents requested are enclosed. <input type="checkbox"/> You may inspect the records at _____ on the date of _____. <input type="checkbox"/> The documents will be made available upon payment of copying costs of \$ _____. <input type="checkbox"/> <b>For "commercial requests" only:</b> the estimated time of when the documents will be available is _____, at the prepaid costs stated above.	
D E N I E D	<input type="checkbox"/> The request creates an undue burden on the public body in accordance with Section 3(g) of the Freedom of Information Act, and we are unable to negotiate a more reasonable request. <input type="checkbox"/> The materials requested are exempt under Section 7 _____ of the Freedom of Information Act for the following reasons: _____ _____ Individual(s) that determined request to be denied and title: _____ _____ In the event of a denial, you have the right to seek review by the Public Access Counselor at (217) 558-0486 or 500 S. Second St., Springfield, IL 62705 Or you have the right to judicial review under section 11 of FOIA. <input type="checkbox"/> Request delayed, for the following reasons (in accordance with 3(e) of the FOIA): _____. You will be notified by the date of _____ as to the action taken on your request.	

**NOTE: This form cannot be MANDATORY under FOIA, but it is preferred. Failure to use it may result in the request not being properly or promptly processed.**

FOIA Officer	Date of Reply
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