

Transitory Records Cheat Sheet

These records can be deleted or recycled when “[no longer needed for agency business](#)” but are **still subject to disclosure** while they exist.

<p>BLANK FORMS & PUBLICATIONS</p> <p>Blank forms or extra copies of reports, brochures, newsletters.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>Numbered forms like checks and master set of blank forms. One copy of all publications must be sent to WA State Library.</i></p>	<p>BRAINSTORMING</p> <p>Post-it notes, Whiteboards, Flipcharts, or staff notes from brainstorming sessions.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>Drafts, edits, comments, or brainstorming with other agencies or outside consultants.</i></p>	<p>CONTACT INFORMATION</p> <p>Business cards, Outlook contacts, mailing lists, listservs and requests to be added/removed, or mail returned as undeliverable.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>Emergency/Disaster Preparedness contact lists.</i></p>
<p>DRAFTING & EDITING</p> <p>Drafts, edits, comments, mockups from INTERNAL staff.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>Final versions and draft comments or edits from EXTERNAL sources like other agencies or outside consultants.</i></p>	<p>UNSIGNED DIGITAL DOCUMENT</p> <p>Digital documents or document templates used to create official, signed, paper copies, like official letters or signed meeting minutes.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>Copies of signed and sent letters.</i></p>	<p>SPAM & MAILERS</p> <p>Catalogs, brochures, bulletins, newsletters, advertisements, or notices <u>NOT</u> created by the agency, not requiring any action by the agency, and not required for agency business.</p>
<p>FYI'S & MEMO'S</p> <p>Cookies in the breakroom, Bob out sick today, email read receipts, or out-of-office notices.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>Leave records, records documenting or informing agency decisions or actions.</i></p>	<p>BROWSING HISTORY</p> <p>Cookies, cache, temp files, saved passwords or web form autofill info, Google searches, or bookmarks.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>Internet activity logs monitored by IT staff to ensure appropriate use.</i></p>	<p>TO-DO LISTS & TASKS</p> <p>Records monitoring work in progress, like To-Do lists, Outlook 'Tasks', routing slips, workflow notifications, or status logs.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>Strategic plans or unit level work plans.</i></p>
<p>RAW DATA CAPTURED ELSEWHERE</p> <p>Raw data or temp records (i.e. survey responses or written notes) documented by formal record.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>AV recordings of official meetings, electronic records that have been printed (i.e. emails).</i></p>	<p>REFERENCE INFO</p> <p>Materials gathered from outside sources for reference use which are not evidence of the agency's business transactions. Conference handouts/materials, cheat sheets, white papers, copies of articles, listserv/RSS feeds.</p>	<p>BASIC AGENCY INFO</p> <p>Requests for hours of operation, mailing address, directions, front desk phone/fax #, web address.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>Public records requests, advice or assistance given as part of agency's mission.</i></p>
<p>SCHEDULING</p> <p>Invitations, checking availability, cancellations and rescheduling, and venue arrangements.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>Calendars, meeting materials, and financial records.</i></p>	<p>SECONDARY COPIES</p> <p>Printouts of database records, webpages, emails, CC's, convenience copies.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>Copies of records held by other agencies or external organizations.</i></p>	<p>UNSOLICITED INFO</p> <p>Info not requested/used by agency, extra info included with applications, unfinished forms, and unwanted donated records.</p> <p><u>Excludes:</u> <i>Records received as part of regular agency business.</i></p>

CAUTION: THIS DOCUMENT DOES NOT GIVE LEGAL AUTHORITY TO DESTROY RECORDS. CHECK FULL DESCRIPTIONS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMON RECORDS RETENTION SCHEDULE (CORE) TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE.