



Document Retention and Destruction Policy

General

The Document Retention and Destruction Policy identifies the record retention responsibilities of staff, volunteers, members of the board of directors, and outsiders for maintaining and documenting the storage and destruction of the organization's documents and records.

The organization's staff, volunteers, members of the board of directors, committee members and outsiders (independent contractors via agreements with them) are required to honor the following rules:

- a. Paper or electronic documents indicated under the terms for retention in the following section will be transferred and maintained by the Assistant Director or his/her delegate.
- b. All other paper documents will be destroyed after three years;
- c. All other electronic documents will be deleted from all individual computers, data bases, networks, and back-up storage after one year;
- d. No paper or electronic documents will be destroyed or deleted if pertinent to any ongoing or anticipated government investigation or proceeding or private litigation (check with the Assistant Director or his/her delegate for any current or foreseen litigation if employees have not been notified); and
- e. No paper or electronic documents will be destroyed or deleted as required to comply with government auditing standards (Single Audit Act).

Record Retention Schedule

Form Date: 7/23/2019

Records Retention Policy: \DREAMS of Wilmington Dropbox\DREAMS Shared Drive\Policies

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Type of Document	Minimum Requirement
Accounts payable ledgers and schedules	7 years
Audit reports	Permanently
Bank reconciliations	2 years
Bank statements	3 years
Checks (for important payments and purchases)	Permanently
Contracts, mortgages, notes, and leases (expired)	7 years
Contracts (still in effect)	7 years past expiration of contract
Correspondence (general)	2 years
Correspondence (legal and important matters)	Permanently
Correspondence (with customers and vendors)	2 years
Deeds, mortgages, and bills of sale	Permanently
Determination letter for income tax exemption	Permanently
Depreciation schedules	Permanently
Duplicate deposit slips	2 years
Employment applications	3 years
Expense analyses/expense distribution schedules	7 years
Year-end financial statements	Permanently
Insurance records, current accident reports, claims, policies, and so on (active and expired)	Permanently
Internal audit reports	3 years

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Type of Document	Minimum Requirement
Inventory records for products, materials, and supplies	3 years
Invoices (to customers, from vendors)	7 years
Minute books, bylaws, and charter	Permanently
Payroll records and summaries	7 years
Personnel files (terminated employees)	7 years
Tax returns and worksheets	Permanently
Timesheets	7 years
Withholding tax statements	7 years

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