

Agency for Health Care Administration
Public Records Search
-Frequently Asked Questions-

1. What exactly is available on the Public Records Site?

Answer: Public record investigation reports for health care providers licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration including abortion clinics, adult day care centers, adult family care homes, ambulatory surgery centers, assisted living facilities, birth centers, clinical laboratories, comprehensive outpatient rehab facilities, crisis stabilization units, end-stage renal disease clinics, health care clinics, health care services pools, home health agencies, home medical equipment providers, homemaker & companion services, homes for special services, hospices, hospitals, intermediate care facilities for the developmentally disabled, multiphasic health test centers, nurse registries, nursing homes, organ and tissue procurement organizations, portable x-ray providers, prescribed pediatric extended care centers, psychiatric residential treatment centers, rehab agencies, residential treatment centers and facilities, rural health clinics, skilled nursing units, and transitional living facilities.

2. How soon will investigation reports be available online?

Answer: Generally, reports are available 30 to 45 days after the inspection.

3. How far back can I search records?

Answer: Inspection reports have a rolling eight year retention period. Reports prior to the rolling eight years are no longer available for request.

4. Why is AHCA doing this?

Answer: These inspection reports can provide valuable information to consumers and the public about the regulatory history of a health care provider. In the past, the reports have been in high demand and available through the Agency's Public Record Office or local libraries. Posting these documents online allows consumers to access this information in a convenient and efficient way.

5. Are only annual or biennial inspections available online? How about complaint inspections?

Answer: Both regular inspections (annual or biennial) and complaint inspection reports may be found on the web site.

6. What type of information will be available on the investigation reports?

Answer: Inspection reports include regulatory violations found during an Agency inspection. See details at Inspection Reports (link to <http://ahca.myflorida.com/MCHQ/WebDmHelp/>)

7. What are Class I, II, III, and IV violations?

Answer: Not all health care provider types have "Classifications" for violations. Classification is defined by statute or rule as listed below. Class is defined differently for different provider types, but generally means:

Class I representing serious and immediate risk or harm to patients or residents.

Class II represents violations that pose a direct threat to health, safety or welfare of patients or residents, other than Class I.

Class III represents violations that indirectly or potentially threaten health, safety or welfare of patients or residents.

Class IV represents violations that do not threaten health, safety or welfare of patients or residents and are generally administrative violations.

The following is a list of provider types that classify deficiencies and the authorizing statute or rule: Assisted Living Facilities – 429.19, Florida Statutes

Home Health Agencies - 400.484(2), Florida Statutes

Nurse Registry - 400.484(2), Florida Statutes

Adult Family Care Home – 429.71, Florida Statutes

Adult Day Care Centers - 58A-6.014(1), Florida Administrative Code

Home Medical Equipment - 59A-25.005(3), Florida Administrative Code

Intermediate Care Facilities - 400.967(3), Florida Statutes

Nursing Homes – 400.23(8), Florida Statutes

8. You can search for facilities that have documents posted- why don't all facilities have documents posted?

Answer: Since inspection reports are posted with a rolling eight year retention period, not all providers will have reports posted that fall prior to the retention period.

9. Are there plans to post more documents to this site?

Answer: We look forward to reviewing the consumer use of the site, and may consider posting additional documents in the future.

10. How can I get more information about these providers such as current license status?

Answer: Additional information is available through the Agency's FloridaHealthFinder.gov (link to <http://www.floridahealthfinder.gov/>) web site.

11. How can I access documents that are not on the site?

Answer: You can request any public records by mail, phone, fax, or email by contacting the Agency's Office of Public Records.

Please direct your public records requests to:
Public Records Coordinator
2727 Mahan Drive, Ft. Knox #3, Mail Stop #2
Tallahassee, FL 32308-5403
850/414-6044
850/921-9041 Fax
PublicRecordsReq@ahca.myflorida.com