

RIGHT TO KNOW QUIZ

Read the below introduction and test your knowledge

✦ Introduction to Freedom of Information

The Freedom of Information Act (2021 Revision) gives everyone access to records held by the Cayman Islands Government. Access is provided in two ways: government agencies have a duty to publish certain information about their activities, and members of the public can request information from the agencies. The FOI Act applies to government agencies known as public authorities, which include: Ministries, Portfolios, Offices, Departments, Statutory Authorities or Bodies, and Government Companies. Each government agency has a designated Information Manager (IM) who deals with the processing of an FOI request.

You can request any kind of information that is recorded by the government agency, which includes information recorded on paper, such as printed or handwritten documents, computer files, including emails, audio tapes, video tapes, maps, plans, graphs, drawings, and photographs. When asking for information, be specific. If you have a date (of a letter or meeting minutes), location (for a map or building plan), or other supporting reference information, it is good to include it to help locate the information.

An FOI request must be in writing, and it can be submitted by email, fax, postal mail, or hand-delivered. The Information Manager should acknowledge the request within 10 days and should provide a decision as soon as practicable, but no more than 30 days from the day the request was received unless a 30 day extension was taken with a supporting reason.

If you are not satisfied with the decision you receive, you can request an internal review, and the decision will be reassessed by a senior official of the government agency. If you are not satisfied with the decision of the internal review, you can request an appeal to the Office of the Ombudsman. The Ombudsman is the supervisory authority for FOI in the Cayman Islands, and provides a fair, independent and impartial approach in all of the work they carry out.


The FOI Act promotes government accountability, transparency, and public participation in national decision-making.



RIGHT TO KNOW QUIZ

How much do you know about FOI?
Read and choose the correct options and find out!

- 1** Who can make an FOI request?
 - a) Civil Servants
 - b) Adults Only
 - c) Anyone
- 2** Under the Freedom of Information Act you can request information from?
 - a) Private businesses
 - b) All Government agencies/public authorities
 - c) A and B
- 3** Which of the below are not public authorities?
 - a) Ministries, Portfolios, Government Companies
 - b) Publicly traded companies
 - c) Statutory Authorities, Bodies, Departments
- 4** What is the title of the designated person to process FOI requests?
 - a) Information Analyst
 - b) Policy Officer
 - c) Information Manager
- 5** How should an FOI request be made?
 - a) in person
 - b) in writing
 - c) over the phone
- 6** How long does an acknowledgment of a request generally take?
 - a) 48 hours
 - b) 10 days
 - c) 5 days
- 7** How long does a decision take (if an extension is not taken)?
 - a) Up to 60 days
 - b) 10 days
 - c) 30 days
- 8** What is the next step if you are not satisfied with the decision?
 - a) Internal assessment
 - b) Internal review
 - c) Request an appeal
- 9** What organization is the supervisory authority for FOI?
 - a) The Office of the Auditor General
 - b) Cabinet
 - c) Office of the Ombudsman
- 10** Which of the following is not promoted by the FOI Act?
 - a) transparency, accountability,
 - b) secrecy, accountability
 - c) public participation

- 
- 1 Who can make an FOI request?
 - a) Civil Servants
 - b) Adults Only
 - c) Anyone
 - 2 Under the Freedom of Information Act you can request information from?
 - a) Private businesses
 - b) All Government agencies/public authorities
 - c) A and B
 - 3 Which of the below are not public authorities?
 - a) Ministries, Portfolios, Government Companies
 - b) Publicly traded companies
 - c) Statutory Authorities, Bodies, Departments
 - 4 What is the title of the designated person to process FOI requests?
 - a) Information Analyst
 - b) Policy Officer
 - c) Information Manager
 - 5 How should an FOI request be made?
 - a) in person
 - b) in writing
 - c) over the phone
 - 6 How long does an acknowledgment of a request generally take?
 - a) 48 hours
 - b) 10 days
 - c) 5 days
 - 7 How long does a decision take (if an extension is not taken)?
 - a) Up to 60 days
 - b) 10 days
 - c) 30 days
 - 8 What is the next step if you are not satisfied with the decision?
 - a) Internal assessment
 - b) Internal review
 - c) Request an appeal
 - 9 What organization is the supervisory authority for FOI?
 - a) The Office of the Auditor General
 - b) Cabinet
 - c) Office of the Ombudsman
 - 10 Which of the following is not promoted by the FOI Act?
 - a) transparency, accountability,
 - b) secrecy, accountability
 - c) public participation