

Office of the Information Commissioner

Queensland

Information Sheet

Right to Information Act 2009

Can I apply for RTI processing documents?

Under the *Right to Information Act 2009* (RTI Act), anyone can apply to access documents of Queensland government agencies or Ministers and individuals can apply to amend documents that contain their personal information.

There are some limitations, however, and some documents are excluded from the Acts.

What are RTI processing documents?

When you apply to an agency under the RTI Act, the agency will generate and receive a number of documents as part of processing your application. These documents are called RTI processing documents.

Can I apply for my RTI processing documents?

No. RTI processing documents are excluded from the RTI Act¹ and cannot be applied for. This was decided by the Commissioner² and upheld by the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal.³

This also applies to internal review processing documents if there was an internal review on your application. These documents cannot be applied for.

Can I apply for someone else's RTI processing documents?

No, the same rules apply to someone else's RTI processing documents.

For additional information and assistance please refer to the <u>Applications outside</u> the scope of the Act guideline or contact the Enquiries Service on 07 3234 7373 or email <u>enquiries@oic.qld.gov.au</u>.

This information sheet is introductory only, and deals with issues in a general way. It is not legal advice. Additional factors may be relevant in specific circumstances. For detailed guidance, legal advice should be sought.

If you have any comments or suggestions on the content of this document, please submit them to enquiries@oic.qld.gov.au.

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Changes to legislation after the update date are not included in this document

¹ Under schedule 2, part 2, item 7 of the RTI Act, which also applies to the IP Act.

² T71 and Queensland Police Service [2022] QICmr 10 (4 March 2022), applying the commentary of Hoeben J in Carmody v Information Commissioner & Ors (5) [2018] QCATA 18.

³ Stella v Griffith University [2025] QCATA 20.