Infographic

# New, HIPAA Privacy Final Rule Updates

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**15 Days**

The most time a provider or plan has to fulfil your request for your records — down from 30

> "Americans should never have to fight for access to their own health records"
>
> *Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., HHS Secretary*

## Get Your Records Faster

- **15 days, not 30.** Requests must be met as soon as practicable. One 30-day extension is still allowed.
- **Health apps.** Clearer rules on when electronic records must go to your personal health app.
- **Fairer fees.** Some electronic copies must be free,and estimated fee schedules must be posted online.
- **Send it on.** You can have an electronic copy of your health record sent to someone you choose.
- **Simpler ID checks.** Less burden proving who you are when you ask for your records.

## Why Must Comply

- **Covered entities** — health plans, healthcare clearing houses and healthcare providers.
- **Business associates** of those covered entities. Some business associate agreements get extra time.
- **Correctional institutions** must now give the privacy notice to the people held in them.

## What the Final Rule Does

- Speeds up your right of access — faster records, clearer fees, fewer hoops.
- Lets health plans and community partners share information to coordinate care.
- Cuts paperwork for providers while making the privacy notice easier to use.
- Extends mission-readiness disclosures to the Public Health Service and NOAA Corps.

## Your Right of Access, Step by Step




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## Key Dates

**Nov 16, 2026**
HHS Office for Civil Rights announces the final rule amending the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

**+60 Days**
After publication in the Federal Register, the rule takes effect.

**+180 Days**
After the effective date, covered entities and business associates must comply.

**Later**
Some business associate agreements get extra time to be brought into line.

## At a Glance

| Change | Algorithm | Who feels it |
|---|---|---|
| 15 days | Deadline to fulfil a records request, down from 30 | Patients |
| Fees posted | Some electronic copies free; fee estimates published online | Patients |
| Coordination | Plans and community partners may share to coordinate care | Health plans |
| No sign-off | No more chasing a signed receipt for the privacy notice | Providers |

## Where the Rule Touches Your Work




## Getting Ready

- **Speed up access workflows** so requests are fulfilled in 15 days, as soon as practicable.
- **Update the Notice of Privacy Practices** and name a contact person people can talk to.
- **Post fee estimates** online and identify the electronic copies that must be free.
- **Review business associate agreements** — some get extra time, but all need checking.

**Source** Fact Sheet, HIPAA Privacy Rule Changes

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