§ 102.1 General provisions.

This subpart describes the procedures that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) follows for responding to requests made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552).

§ 102.2 Public reading rooms.

(a) SBA maintains a public reading room in the Headquarters Reference Library at 409 3rd St., SW., Suite 5000, Washington, DC 20416 where you may read and copy the following:

(1) Final SBA opinions and orders issued by the Office of Hearings and Appeals in adjudicating a case,

(2) Official non-privileged policy statements, opinions, or interpretations,

(3) Standard operating procedures affecting members of the public,

(4) Records SBA has released in response to previous FOIA requests which, because of their subject matter, SBA determines are likely to be requested again, and

(5) An index of the records referred to under paragraph (a)(4) of this section.

(b) The records described in paragraph (a) of this section are available in the SBA Online Reading Room at http://www.sba.gov/library/.

§ 102.3 Requirements pertaining to the submission of requests.

(a) You may make a request for SBA records by writing directly to the program or field office that maintains the records, or to the Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOI/PA) Office by mail to 409 3rd St., SW., Washington, DC 20416 or fax to 202-205-7059 or e-mail to foia@sba.gov. The office receiving your request will forward it to the correct office. The correct office will consider your request to be complete only when you:

(1) Describe the records sought in sufficient detail for an Agency employee to locate the records with a reasonable amount of effort;

(2) Agree to pay applicable fees pursuant to §102.6, unless you seek a waiver of fees; and

(3) Make an advance payment if either the correct office estimates the fees will exceed $250 or you owe for past FOIA fees. If you owe past due FOIA fees, you must pay the estimated amount, plus any past due charges and interest.

(b) If you make a request on behalf of another person for information pertaining to that person, your request must include an authorization signed by the latter, allowing SBA to release such information to you.

(c) To make a Privacy Act request for records about yourself, you must follow the procedures detailed in §102.34(b) of subpart B.

§ 102.4 Timing of responses to requests.

(a) In general. Subject to paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, once the correct office receives your complete request, that office must respond within 20 working days unless that office notifies you in writing that the time is extended by an additional 10 working days for one or more of the following reasons:

(1) The need to search for and collect the requested records from field facilities or other establishments separate from the office processing the request;