



OFFICE OF PLANNING AND BUDGET

Sonny Perdue
Governor

Shelley C. Nickel
Director

June 22, 2006

Georgia Hospital Association
1675 Terrell Mill Road
Marietta, Georgia 30067

Georgia Health Information Management Association
4249 Meadow Way
Marietta, Georgia 30066

Medical Association of Georgia
1330 W. Peachtree Street, NW
Suite 500
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

To All Interested Parties:

Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 31-33-3, effective July 1 of each year, the costs related to medical record retrieval, certification, and copying may be adjusted in accordance with the medical component of the consumer price index. The Office of Planning and Budget (OPB) is responsible for calculating this annual inflation adjustment and publishing the revised rates. However, in response to consumer and provider concerns over existing medical record retrieval costs, OPB has opted to freeze rates for the upcoming year and in the interim will review this issue to determine the appropriate methodology for rates.

		Current	Effective July 1, 2006
Search, Retrieval, and Other Direct Administrative Costs	Up To:	\$24.86	No Change in Existing Rate Structure
Certification Fee	Up to per record:	\$9.32	
Copying Costs for Records in Paper Form	Per page for pages 1 – 20:	\$0.93	
	Per page for pages 21 – 100:	\$0.80	
	Per page for pages over 100:	\$0.63	
Note – Rates do not apply to records requests necessary to make or complete an application for a disability benefits program.			

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Office: 404-656-3820

270 Washington Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334

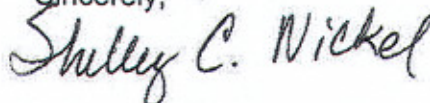
Fax: 404-656-7198

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Also, please note that the State Board of Workers' Compensation has instituted medical record retrieval rates that apply specifically to workers' compensation cases. For information on these rates, please contact Martine Schweitzer at the State Board of Workers' Compensation at 404-656-2048 or visit the website at <http://sbwc.georgia.gov>.

Please contact Elizabeth Brady in the Division of Human Development at 404-656-4395 if you have questions regarding the inflationary calculations. **Please note that the Office of Planning and Budget cannot provide legal interpretation of O.C.G.A. 31-33-3 or enforce any provisions of the statute.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shelley C. Nickel".

Shelley C. Nickel

SCN/mbw