



11270 Exposition Blvd Box 64887, Los Angeles CA 90064-9998

## ***Document Retention and Destruction Policy***

The Ripa Ladrang Foundation understands and supports that Certain federal laws prohibit the destruction of certain documents. Ripal Ladrang Foundation has a written, mandatory document retention and periodic destruction policy. This policy is designed to eliminate accidental or innocent destruction. In addition, it is important for administrative personnel to know the length of time records should be retained for the organization to be compliant.

### **Document Destruction**

This Document Retention and Destruction Policy identifies the record retention responsibilities of staff, volunteers, members of the board of directors, and outsiders for maintaining and documenting the storage and destruction of the organization's documents and records.

The organization's staff, volunteers, members of the board of directors, committee members and outsiders (independent contractors via agreements with them) are required to honor the following rules:

- a. Paper or electronic documents indicated under the terms for retention in the following section will be transferred and maintained by the board of directors;
- b. All other paper documents will be destroyed after three years;
- c. All other electronic documents will be deleted from all individual computers, data bases, networks, and back-up storage after one year;
- d. No paper or electronic documents will be destroyed or deleted if pertinent to any ongoing or anticipated government investigation or proceeding or private litigation (check with legal counsel or the human resources department for any current or foreseen litigation if employees have not been notified); and
- e. No paper or electronic documents will be destroyed or deleted as required to comply with government auditing standards (Single Audit Act).

### **Record Retention**

The following table\* indicates the minimum requirements and is provided as guidance to customize in determining your organization's document retention policy. Because statutes of limitations and state and government agency requirements vary from state to state, each organization should carefully consider its requirements and consult with legal counsel before adopting a Document Retention and Destruction Policy. In addition, federal awards and other government grants may provide for a longer period than is required by other statutory requirements.

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\* Adapted from National Council of Nonprofits.



**RIPA LADRANG  
FOUNDATION**

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Minimum Requirement	
Accounts payable ledgers and schedules	7 years
Audit reports	Permanently
Bank reconciliations	2 years
Bank statements	3 years
Checks (for important payments and purchases)	Permanently
Contracts, mortgages, notes, and leases (expired)	7 years
Contracts (still in effect)	Contract period
Correspondence (general)	2 years
Correspondence (legal and important matters)	Permanently
Correspondence (with customers and vendors)	2 years
Deeds, mortgages, and bills of sale	Permanently
Depreciation schedules	Permanently
Duplicate deposit slips	2 years
Employment applications	3 years
Expense analyses/expense distribution schedules	7 years
Year-end financial statements	Permanently
Insurance records, current accident reports, claims, policies, and so on (active and expired)	Permanently
Internal audit reports	3 years
Inventory records for products, materials, and supplies	3 years
Invoices (to customers, from vendors)	7 years
Minute books, bylaws, and charter	Permanently
Patents and related papers	Permanently
Payroll records and summaries	7 years
Personnel files (terminated employees)	7 years
Retirement and pension records	Permanently
Tax returns and worksheets	Permanently
Trademark registrations and copyrights	Permanently
Withholding tax statements	7 years