

In Rhode Island, two statutes address the amount of money that doctors are allowed to charge in response to a patient's request for copies of his/her medical records. R.I.G.L. section 5-37-22 <http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE5/5-37/5-37-22.HTM> provides that a physician should be reimbursed for reasonable expenses to copy those records as defined by the director pursuant to section 23-1-48. When we look at R.I.G.L. section 23-1-48 <http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE23/23-1/23-1-48.HTM>, it provides that "[t]he director shall promulgate rules and regulations which establish reasonable charges for expenses."

Turning to the Rules and Regulations For the Licensure and Discipline of Physicians section 11.2 (http://www.rules.state.ri.us/dar/regdocs/released/pdf/BMLD/BMLD_2374.pdf), the director has determined that reasonable expenses for copying of medical records are:

- not more than \$0.25 per page for the first 100 pages
- after 100 pages, not more than \$0.10 per page
- maximum fee of \$15.00 for retrieval regardless of time spent retrieving
- special handling fee of an additional \$10.00 if records must be delivered within 48 hours of request
- copying of x-rays or other documents not reproducible by photocopy at physician's actual cost plus clerical fees not to exceed \$15.00