

lawful requirements of any other governmental body prescribing longer retention periods for any category of records.

§ 379.5 Protection and storage of records.

(a) The company shall protect records subject to this part from fires, floods, and other hazards, and safeguard the records from unnecessary exposure to deterioration from excessive humidity, dryness, or lack of ventilation.

(b) The company shall notify the Secretary if prescribed records are substantially destroyed or damaged before the term of the prescribed retention periods.

§ 379.7 Preservation of records.

(a) All records may be preserved by any technology that is immune to alteration, modification, or erasure of the underlying data and will enable production of an accurate and unaltered paper copy.

(b) Records not originally preserved on hard copy shall be accompanied by a statement executed by a person having personal knowledge of the facts indicating the type of data included within the records. One comprehensive statement may be executed in lieu of individual statements for multiple records if the type of data included in the multiple records is common to all such records. The records shall be indexed and retained in such a manner as will render them readily accessible. The company shall have facilities available to locate, identify and produce legible paper copies of the records.

(c) Any significant characteristic, feature or other attribute that a particular medium will not preserve shall be clearly indicated at the beginning of the applicable records as appropriate.

(d) The printed side of forms, such as instructions, need not be preserved for each record as long as the printed matter is common to all such forms and an identified specimen of the form is

maintained on the medium for reference.

§ 379.9 Companies going out of business.

The records referred to in the regulations in this part may be destroyed after business is discontinued and the company is completely liquidated. The records may not be destroyed until dissolution is final and all pending transactions and claims are completed. When a company is merged with another company under jurisdiction of the Secretary, the successor company shall preserve records of the merged company in accordance with the regulations in this part.

§ 379.11 Waiver of requirements of the regulations in this part.

A waiver from any provision of the regulations in this part may be made by the Secretary upon his/her own initiative or upon submission of a written request by the company. Each request for waiver shall demonstrate that unusual circumstances warrant a departure from prescribed retention periods, procedures, or techniques, or that compliance with such prescribed requirements would impose an unreasonable burden on the company.

§ 379.13 Disposition and retention of records.

The schedule in appendix A to this part shows periods that designated records shall be preserved. The descriptions specified under the various general headings are for convenient reference and identification, and are intended to apply to the items named regardless of what the records are called in individual companies and regardless of the record media. The retention periods represent the prescribed number of years from the date of the document and not calendar years. Records not listed in appendix A to this part shall be retained as determined by the management of each company.

APPENDIX A TO PART 379—SCHEDULE OF RECORDS AND PERIODS OF RETENTION

Item and category of records	Retention period
A. Corporate and General	
1. Incorporation and reorganization:	
(a) Charter or certificate of incorporation and amendments	Note A.

Item and category of records	Retention period
(b) Legal documents related to mergers, consolidations, reorganization, receiverships and similar actions which affect the identity or organization of the company.	Note A.
2. Minutes of Directors, Executive Committees, Stockholders and other corporate meetings.	Note A.
3. Titles, franchises and authorities:	
(a) Certificates of public convenience and necessity issued by regulating bodies.	Until expiration or cancellation.
(b) Operating authorizations and exemptions to operate	Until expiration or cancellation.
(c) Copies of formal orders of regulatory bodies served upon the company	Note A.
(d) Deeds, charters, and other title papers	Until disposition of property.
(e) Patents and patent records	Note A.
4. Annual reports or statements to stockholders	3 years.
5. Contracts and agreements:	
(a) Service contracts, such as for operational management, accounting, financial or legal services, and agreements with agents.	Until expiration or termination plus 3 years.
(b) Contracts and other agreements relating to the construction, acquisition or sale of real property and equipment except as otherwise provided in (a) above.	Until expiration or termination plus 3 years.
(c) Contracts for the purchase or sale of material and supplies except as provided in (a) above.	Until expiration.
(d) Shipping contracts for transportation or caretakers of freight	Until expiration.
(e) Contracts with employees and employee bargaining groups	Until expiration.
(f) Contracts, leases and agreements, not specifically provided for in this section.	Until expiration or termination plus 1 year.
6. Accountant's auditor's, and inspector's reports:	
(a) Certifications and reports of examinations and audits conducted by public accountants.	3 years.
(b) Reports of examinations and audits conducted by internal auditors, time inspectors, and others.	3 years.
7. Other	Note A.
B. Treasury	
1. Capital stock records:	
(a) Capital stock ledger	Note A.
(b) Capital stock certificates, records of or stubs of	Note A.
(c) Stock transfer register	Note A.
2. Long-term debt records:	
(a) Bond indentures, underwritings, mortgages, and other long-term credit agreements.	Until redemption plus 3 years.
(b) Registered bonds and debenture ledgers	Until redemption plus 3 years.
(c) Stubs or similar records of bonds or other long-term debt issued	Note A.
3. Authorizations from regulatory bodies for issuance of securities including applications, reports, and supporting papers.	Note A.
4. Records of securities owned, in treasury, or held by custodians, detailed ledgers and journals, or their equivalent.	Until the securities are sold, redeemed or otherwise disposed of.
5. Other	Note A.
C. Financial and Accounting	
1. Ledgers:	
(a) General and subsidiary ledgers with indexes	Until discontinuance of use plus 3 years.
(b) Balance sheets and trial balance sheets of general and subsidiary ledgers	3 years.
2. Journals:	
(a) General journals	Until discontinuance of use plus 3 years.
(b) Subsidiary journals and any supporting data, except as otherwise provided for, necessary to explain journal entries.	3 years.
3. Cash books:	
(a) General cash books	Until discontinuance of use plus 3 years.
(b) Subsidiary cash books	3 years.
4. Vouchers:	
(a) Voucher registers, indexes, or equivalent	3 years.
(b) Paid and canceled vouchers, expenditure authorizations, detailed distribution sheets and other supporting data including original bills and invoices, if not provided for elsewhere.	3 years.
(c) Paid drafts, paid checks, and receipts for cash paid out	3 years.
5. Accounts receivable:	
(a) Record or register of accounts receivable, indexes thereto, and summaries of distribution.	3 years after settlement.
(b) Bills issued for collection and supporting data	3 years after settlement.
(c) Authorization for writing off receivables	1 year.
(d) Reports and statements showing age and status of receivables	1 year.
6. Records of accounting codes and instructions	3 years after discontinuance.
7. Other	Note A.

Item and category of records	Retention period
(a) Cash books	1 year.
(b) Remittance records, bank deposit slips and supporting papers	1 year.
(c) Balance sheets and supporting papers	1 year.
(d) Statements of corrections in agents' accounts	1 year.
(e) Other records and reports pertaining to ticket sales, baggage handled, miscellaneous collections, refunds, adjustments, etc..	1 year.
J. Transportation	
1. Records pertaining to transportation of household goods:	
(a) Estimate of charges	1 year.
(b) Order for service	1 year.
(c) Vehicle-load manifest	1 year.
(d) Descriptive inventory	1 year.
2. Records and reports pertaining to operation of marine and floating equipment:	
(a) Ship log	3 years.
(b) Ship articles	3 years.
(c) Passenger and room list	3 years.
(d) Floatmen's barge, lighter, and escrow captain's reports, demurrage records, towing reports and checks sheets.	2 years.
3. Dispatchers' sheets, registers, and other records pertaining to movement of transportation equipment.	3 years.
4. Import and export records including bonded freight and steamship engagements.	2 years.
5. Records, reports, orders and tickets pertaining to weighting of freight	3 years.
6. Records of loading and unloading of transportation equipment	2 years.
7. Records pertaining to the diversion or reconsignment of freight, including requests, tracers, and correspondence.	2 years.
8. Other	Note A.
K. Supporting Data for Reports and Statistics	
1. Supporting data for reports filed with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the Surface Transportation Board, the Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics and regulatory bodies:	
(a) Supporting data for annual financial, operating and statistical reports	3 years.
(b) Supporting data for periodical reports of operating revenues, expenses, and income.	3 years.
(c) Supporting data for reports detailing use of proceeds from issuance or sale of company securities.	3 years.
(d) Supporting data for valuation inventory reports and records. This includes related notes, maps and sketches, underlying engineering, land, and accounting reports, pricing schedules, summary or collection sheets, yearly reports of changes and other miscellaneous data, all relating to the valuation of the company's property by the Federal Highway Administration, the Surface Transportation Board, the Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics or other regulatory body.	3 years after disposition of the property.
2. Supporting data for periodical reports of accidents, inspections, tests, hours of service, repairs, etc..	3 years.
3. Supporting data for periodical statistical of operating results or performance by tonnage, mileage, passengers carried, piggyback traffic, commodities, costs, analyses of increases and decreases, or otherwise.	3 years.
M. Miscellaneous	
1. Index of records	Until revised as record structure changes.
2. Statement listing records prematurely destroyed or lost	For the remainder of the period as prescribed for records destroyed.

Note A.—Records referenced to this note shall be maintained as determined by the designated records supervisory official. Companies should be mindful of the record retention requirements of the Internal Revenue Service, Securities and Exchange Commission, State and local jurisdictions, and other regulatory agencies. Companies shall exercise reasonable care in choosing retention periods, and the choice of retention periods shall reflect past experiences, company needs, pending litigation, and regulatory requirements.

PART 381—WAIVERS, EXEMPTIONS, AND PILOT PROGRAMS

381.110 What definitions are applicable to this part?

Subpart A—General

Subpart B—Procedures for Requesting Waivers

Sec.
381.100 What is the purpose of this part?
381.105 Who is required to comply with the rules in this part?

381.200 What is a waiver?
381.205 How do I determine when I may request a waiver?
381.210 How do I request a waiver?