

Copying Charges

How much can I charge for medical records in South Carolina?

In South Carolina, a physician may charge a fee of no more than sixty-five cents (\$.65) per page for the first thirty pages and fifty cents (\$.50) a page thereafter, to cover the costs incurred for supplies and labor involved in copying requested medical information. S.C. Code Ann. § 44-115-80. **It is recommended that a healthcare provider not charge his/her patients or their personal representatives for these costs.**

The party requesting the patient's records is responsible for the costs of copying and mailing. Payment of the cost may be requested by the physician prior to the records being furnished. However, do not withhold medical information for nonpayment of copying costs, especially if that information is needed to provide care and treatment to the patient. In addition, the records may not be "held hostage" for nonpayment of a medical bill. (See Section 6.8 of this Handbook for more details on this issue).