

InfoLib.org.lr



Liberia's online

Freedom of Information service

How to use the InfoLib website to request information or documents from a public authority in Liberia.

<http://infolib.org.lr>

The Freedom of Information law

In 2010, Liberia's parliament passed the Freedom of Information (FoI) Act. This means you have the right to demand information from any public authority or any private authority that carries out government functions. They must respond with the information you asked for within 30 calendar days... or else explain why they are unable to. The law provides some valid reasons why your request might not be answered (if it would compromise national security, reveal trade secrets or prejudice the proper administration of justice, for example).

Every ministry has a Public Information Officer whose job it is to receive these questions and answer them for you.

You can make a Freedom of Information request in person. Or you can use **InfoLib.org.lr**, and we'll submit the request for you. This guide tells you how to use the website.

InfoLib.org.lr is a website which does two important things:

- makes it easy to make an FoI request
- publishes all the requests and their responses

We can also keep track of how quickly ministries are responding to everyone's questions, and the sort of things people like you are asking about.

Finally, inlib.org.lr is part of Liberia's obligation to the Open Government Partnership¹. President Sirleaf has committed to supporting the OGP goals.

¹ <http://http://www.opengovpartnership.org> — OGP was launched in 2011 to provide an international platform for domestic reformers committed to making their governments more open, accountable, and responsive to citizens. Since then, OGP has grown from 8 countries to over 60. In all of these countries, government and civil society are working together to develop and implement ambitious open government reforms.

Who's behind InfoLib?

InfoLib is run by **iLab Liberia**.

iLab Liberia is a non-profit computer laboratory based in Monrovia providing access to cutting-edge technology, expert IT assistance and a community leveraging technology for the good of Liberia

See more about us at <http://ilabliberia.org/>

InfoLib's website is powered by Alaveteli², which is a software platform that runs on similar sites all around the world to help people make Freedom of Information requests easily and publicly.

² <http://alaveteli.org/> – Alaveteli is free, open source software written by mySociety.

Make a request on InfoLib.org.Ir

The following steps take you through the whole process of making an FoI request on the website. We've made it as easy as we can for you: the hardest part is wording the request itself. Always try to make your request simple, clear, and polite.

We've included screenshots of every step of the process.

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5. Check your request hasn't already been sent	8
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8. Tell InfoLib who you are (sign in)	11
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