



OPEN DATA GUIDELINES

Technology has changed both the way government conducts business and the public's expectations about access to government information. Douglas County Government seeks to:

- promote economic opportunities across the County, spark innovation, increase transparency, engage public participation, and facilitate informed decision-making.
- protect the confidential and sensitive information of our citizens while fully complying with the federal and state laws regarding disclosure of public information.
- share Open Data with citizens, businesses, and other jurisdictions while respecting privacy and security concerns.

Proactively disclosing Open Data is consistent with laws regarding citizen's rights to access to public information such as the Colorado Open Records Act, the Open Meetings Law, and privacy laws and regulations.

Definitions:

Data is final versions of statistical or factual information that:

1. are in alphanumeric form reflected in a list, table, graph, chart or other non-narrative form, that can be digitally transmitted or processed;
2. are regularly created or maintained by or on behalf of an entity and are controlled by such entity; and
3. record a measurement, transaction or determination related to the mission of the entity.

Open Data is any tabular data generated or received by Douglas County Government including data contained in public records as defined by the federal and state laws governing the release of public information. Open Data does not include data which is designated as confidential pursuant to any provision of a federal or state law, rule or regulation or local ordinance or resolution.

Open Data Portal is the DOUGCOdata.org website where Douglas County Government tabular data will be published and made publicly available.

Privacy:

The County will comply with federal and state law to protect disclosure of information that is confidential, proprietary, or protected by law.

Open by Default:

The County's goal is to release Open Data to the Open Data Portal as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Cooperation:

Douglas County Government may partner with other governments to allow citizens ease of access to a broad spectrum of information. The County will not post any other government's data without that government's written consent.

Open Data Publication:

Open Data sets will be subject to quality control and be updated on the Open Data Portal.

County Departments and offices of Elected Officials may develop internal guidelines for Open Data, including any or all of the following items:

- Creating Open Data
- Determining what Open Data to publish and when
- Format for data
- Publishing metadata
- Using unique identifiers for Open Data
- Determining how often to update the Open Data sets
- Responding to requests for publishing of additional Open Data sets

No Restrictions on Public Access to Open Data:

Open Data sets are available on the Open Data Portal without any registration requirement, license requirement or restrictions on their use provided that the County may require a third party providing to the public any Open Data set, or application utilizing such Open Data set, to explicitly identify the source and version of the Open Data set, and a description of any modifications made to such Open Data set. Registration requirements, license requirements or restrictions as used in this section shall not include measures required to ensure access to Open Data sets, to protect the single web site housing Open Data sets from unlawful abuse or attempts to damage or impair use of the web site, or to analyze the types of data being used to improve service delivery.