

CODE OF MASSACHUSETTS REGULATIONS (CMR)

The **CMR**, first published in 1976, is a looseleaf set which contains the regulations of all the state agencies that are required to submit their rules to the Secretary of State's Office. The Library has two copies: one in the MASS 4 collection on the 4th floor (located on the low shelves in the center of the Reading Room), call number KFM 2475 1987 .A22 and one in the STATES collection on the 5th floor with the same call number.

ACCESS: There is a separate looseleaf Index volume shelved with the CMR. It contains four sections: a subject index; a regulation number index; a table of authority, which lists Massachusetts General Laws cites and regulations promulgated under them; and a table of cites to emergency regulations. Also, at the front of each CMR volume there is an **alphabetical table of agencies** and their code numbers. The Library provides electronic access to the CMR in the Massachusetts Substantive Database online. Library members have remote access to the current CMR in this database.

UPDATING: The CMR is updated biweekly by the **Massachusetts Register**. Replacement pages from the Register are inserted in the CMR volumes to replace superseded pages, which are discarded. Note that emergency regulations are not interfiled with the Code until they become permanent. Use the **Cumulative Tables** (a separate index) to locate emergency regulations.

TRACING HISTORY OF A CITE: when tracing the evolution of a CMR citation, be prepared for a time-consuming and often frustrating process. Though superseded pages of the CMR (i.e., prior versions of a code section) are discarded when their replacement pages are published, you can still access the old pages in the Register where they were first published. First, locate the earliest prior version of your Code section in a superseded volume of the CMR. Bound sets of superseded editions are located in the NONCORE stacks on the first floor. Please ask for staff assistance if you wish to see these volumes. Even earlier regulations are kept in storage; a Reference Librarian can retrieve these for you if necessary. The Library has a complete set of CMR on microfiche for each year from 1987 to the present. Consult the microfiche to see the text of a CMR section as it existed at the end of the selected year. Please ask for staff assistance if you wish to see any of the issues on microfiche.

When you are looking at your section, note the date at the bottom of the page. Any time your section was amended between that date and the date of the current regulation, the text of the amendment was first published in an issue of the Massachusetts Register. To compile a list of such amendments, you must consult the Cumulative Tables (cumulated annually) to the Register (1976 to present), found in a volume following the CMR. These tables will give you the cites in the Registers where you can find the text of any earlier versions of the regulation. A PDF version of the [Cumulative Tables from 1976-2013](#) can be found in the State Library's digital archives.

MASSACHUSETTS REGISTER

The **Massachusetts Register**, first issued in 1976, is published biweekly. It is where state regulations, executive orders of the Governor, opinions of the Attorney General, notices of public hearings and other notices from the Secretary of State's Office are first published. Current issues are filed in Volume 25 of the CMR. Older issues (No. 1, 1976 through No. 586, 1987) are bound and located in the NONCORE stacks on the first floor. Please ask for staff assistance if you wish to see these volumes. More recent issues (No. 555 and following) are on microfiche. Please ask for staff assistance if you wish to see any of the older Registers on microfiche.

The library maintains a subscription to the [online version of the Register](#) as well. If you would like to run a keyword search or search by code section or agency, a staff member can log you in.