



**F09-19-MS College Extends Response Time Limit to Consult
with Registrants**

A patient asked a regulatory college for records concerning a complaint he had made about a college registrant. When the college failed to respond within the 30 business-day deadline set by section 7 of FIPPA and extended the time limit, the patient complained to us about what he considered an unjustified time extension.

Section 7(2)(a) of FIPPA provides that a public body is not required to respond within 30 business days if the response time limit is extended under section 10. Section 10(1) authorizes public bodies to extend the time limit for responding for up to 30 business days if (a) the applicant did not give enough details for the public body to identify the requested records, (b) a large number of records were requested and meeting the time limit would unreasonably interfere with the public body's operations and/or (c) more time is needed to consult with a third party or another public body before deciding whether to release information. Section 10(2) also authorizes public bodies to extend the time limit for periods greater than 30 business days with the permission of the Commissioner.

The college told us it had extended the time limit by 30 business days because it needed to consult with the registrants involved in the complaint before deciding whether to release the records to the applicant. After confirming that the college had in fact consulted the two registrants, we were satisfied that it had appropriately relied upon section 10(1)(c) to extend the time limit.