Colorado Privacy Act (CPA) — C.R.S. § 6-1-1301 et seq.

The Colorado Privacy Act (C.R.S. 6-1-1301 et seq.) gives Colorado consumers opt-out, access, correction, deletion and portability rights and sets controller duties.



What it is

The Colorado Privacy Act (CPA), Part 13 of Article 1 of Title 6 of the Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S. § 6-1-1301 et seq.), gives Colorado consumers rights over their personal data and requires controllers to be transparent, minimize data, obtain consent for sensitive data and run data protection assessments for high-risk processing. Governor Polis signed it as Senate Bill 21-190 on July 7, 2021, and it took effect on July 1, 2023.

It applies to controllers that do business in Colorado or target Colorado residents and that process the personal data of 100,000 or more Colorado consumers in a calendar year, or derive revenue or discounts from selling personal data while processing the data of 25,000 or more (§ 6-1-1304). The Colorado Attorney General and district attorneys have exclusive enforcement authority, there is no private right of action, and the Attorney General's CPA Rules are codified at 4 CCR 904-3.

At a glance

PUBLISHER Colorado General Assembly	TYPE Regulation	VERSION Colorado Privacy Act (SB21-190), as amended by HB24-1058, HB24-1130, SB24-041 and SB25-276
EFFECTIVE July 1, 2023	DOMAIN Privacy	FAMILY Global Privacy Regulations
REGION Colorado	ADOPTION MODEL Regulatory Compliance	IMPLEMENTATION COMPLEXITY Medium

Source: coag.gov/resources/colorado-privacy-act/

Why it matters

- **A defined coverage test** A controller that does business in Colorado or targets Colorado residents is covered at 100,000 consumers, or at 25,000 consumers when it also earns revenue or a discount from selling personal data (§ 6-1-1304(1)). Employees and job applicants are not consumers (§ 6-1-1303(6)).
- **Consumer rights with deadlines** Consumers can opt out of targeted advertising, sale and certain profiling, and can access, correct, delete and port their data. Controllers answer within 45 days, with one 45-day extension, and must run an appeal process (§ 6-1-1306).
- **Universal opt-out signals** Since July 1, 2024, a controller that processes data for targeted advertising or sale must honor a universal opt-out mechanism that meets the Attorney General's specifications (§ 6-1-1306(1)(a)(IV)(B)).
- **A stated consent standard** Consent must be an affirmative, freely given, specific, informed and unambiguous act. The Attorney General says acceptance of broad terms, hovering over content or deceptive page design is not consent.

How SmartSuite supports CPA (CO)

Processing Inventory and Purposes

Record each processing activity with its data categories, purposes, third-party sharing and sensitive data, and the consent obtained where § 6-1-1308 requires it.

Consumer Request and Appeal Workflow

Track opt-out, access, correction, deletion and portability requests against the 45-day deadline, extension notices and the appeal process in § 6-1-1306.

Universal Opt-Out Handling

Log how universal opt-out mechanisms are received and applied, with the date each control was tested, for the requirement in force since July 1, 2024.

Data Protection Assessments

Run and store assessments for targeted advertising, sale, high-risk profiling and sensitive data, with benefits, risks, safeguards and approvals, ready for an Attorney General request (§ 6-1-1309).

Processor and Vendor Contracts

Hold each processing contract with its instructions, confidentiality terms and security measures, plus review dates for every processor (§ 6-1-1305).

Biometric, Minors and Geolocation Controls

Track the written biometric policy, the controls for minors' online services and the consent records for precise geolocation data added by HB24-1130, SB24-041 and SB25-276.

Common framework mappings

LGPD | CCPA/CPRA | GDPR | ISO 27001:2022 | ISO 27701 | NIST Privacy Framework v1.0 | PIPEDA | UK GDPR

Official resources

Senate Bill 21-190, signed text (Colorado General Assembly)

The signed act that created the Colorado Privacy Act, C.R.S. 6-1-1301 et seq., as published by the Colorado General Assembly.

content.leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2021a_190_signed.pdf

Colorado Attorney General: Colorado Privacy Act page and FAQ

The Attorney General's page on the CPA: scope, consumer rights, controller duties, enforcement and the universal opt-out mechanism list.

coag.gov/resources/colorado-privacy-act

Colorado Attorney General: CPA rulemaking and rules

The Attorney General's rulemaking page for the CPA Rules, 4 CCR 904-3, with the notice of rulemaking and public comment record.

coag.gov/colorado-privacy-act-rulemaking

Senate Bill 24-041, signed text (minors' online data)

The signed act adding minors' online data protections to the CPA, effective October 1, 2025, as published by the Colorado General Assembly.

content.leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2024a_041_signed.pdf

Frequently asked questions

Who must comply with the Colorado Privacy Act?

Controllers that do business in Colorado or deliver products or services intentionally targeted to Colorado residents, and that control or process the personal data of 100,000 or more consumers in a calendar year, or derive revenue or a discount from selling personal data while processing the data of 25,000 or more (§ 6-1-1304). Consumers means Colorado residents, so the counts are Colorado residents, not U.S. totals. The minors provisions added in 2024 apply regardless of volume.

What rights do Colorado consumers have and how fast must a controller respond?

Consumers can opt out of targeted advertising, sale and profiling that produces legal or similarly significant effects, and can access, correct, delete and port their personal data (§ 6-1-1306(1)). A controller must act within 45 days and may extend once by 45 days with reasons. If it refuses, it must offer an appeal and answer within 45 days, extendable by 60.

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When did universal opt-out mechanisms become mandatory?

On July 1, 2024. From that date a controller that processes personal data for targeted advertising or sale must allow consumers to opt out through a user-selected universal opt-out mechanism that meets the Attorney General's technical specifications (§ 6-1-1306(1)(a)(IV)(B)). The Attorney General publishes a list of recognized mechanisms under Rule 5.07 of 4 CCR 904-3.

Is there still a 60-day cure period?

For the general CPA, no: the notice-and-cure provision in § 6-1-1311(1)(d) was repealed effective January 1, 2025. SB24-041 added a separate 60-day cure period for the minors provisions that is repealed effective December 31, 2026. Only the Attorney General and district attorneys enforce the CPA, and a violation is a deceptive trade practice.

What changed in the CPA in 2024 and 2025?

HB24-1058 added biological and neural data to sensitive data and took effect August 7, 2024. HB24-1130 added biometric identifier rules effective July 1, 2025. SB24-041 added protections for minors' online data effective October 1, 2025. SB25-276, signed May 23, 2025, added precise geolocation data to sensitive data and bars selling sensitive data without consent.

License included / downloadable: Yes The Colorado Privacy Act is state law, published free by the Colorado General Assembly, and the Attorney General publishes the CPA Rules and FAQ on its website.

Full framework page and mappings: smartsuite.com/frameworks/colorado-privacy-act-cpa

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