PERSONNEL RECORD RETENTION CHECKLIST

Document Title	Number of Years
Accident Reports and Worker's Compensation Claims	11 years
Age Work Certification Records for Minors	3 years after termination
Applications (non-hires)	1 year
Attendance Records	4 years
COBRA Records	3 years
Employee Benefit Plans	2 years following the termination of the plan
Employment Advertisements	3 years
ERISA Retirement and Pension Records (Employee Retirement Income Security Act)	Indefinitely
I-9 Forms	3 years after employment begins or 1 year beyond termination, whichever is later.
Labor Contracts	Indefinitely
Medical and Exposure Records relating to toxic substances	40 years
OSHA Logs (Occupational Safety and Health Act) Employers must maintain a log that records worker's job related injuries or illnesses, the dates, and the nature of the incidents.	5 years following the end of the year to which they relate, plus current year.
OSHA Training Documentation	3 years
Paychecks	8 years
Payroll Records – including name, address, social security number, wage rate, number of hours worked daily or weekly deductions, allowances claimed and net wages	6 years
Personnel File Records – including application, pre- employment tests, performance appraisal, rate changes, position changes, transfers, promotions, demotions, documentation of disciplinary actions and job descriptions.	6 years after termination
Employee Medical Records and Analysis as required by OSHA	The duration of employment plus 30 years
MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets) or some identification of substance used or found	The duration of employment plus 30 years
Records pertaining to unfair or discriminatory employment practices and Americans with Disabilities Act.	Until the final disposition of the charge or action

Note: this list is not exhaustive of record keeping requirements and it should be understood that additional state or industry guidelines may apply to your business.