

Excerpt from Ontario's *Evidence Act*, s.34.1:

Authentication

(4) The person seeking to introduce an electronic record has the burden of proving its authenticity by evidence capable of supporting a finding that the electronic record is what the person claims it to be.

Application of best evidence rule

(5) Subject to subsection (6), where the best evidence rule is applicable in respect of an electronic record, it is satisfied on proof of the integrity of the electronic record.

Same

(5.1) The integrity of an electronic record may be proved by evidence of the integrity of the electronic records system by or in which the data was recorded or stored, or by evidence that reliable encryption techniques were used to support the integrity of the electronic record.

(<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90e23>)

In order for records to remain authoritative and useable, they must remain readable and accessible for the entire retention period of the record as determined by the appropriate [records retention schedule](#)