



Notification Of Rights Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the institution receives a request for access.

A student should submit to the Registrar's Office a written request that identifies the record(s) the student wishes to inspect. The Registrar will make arrangements for access and will notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the Registrar, the Registrar shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.

A student who wishes to ask the institution to amend a record should write to the Registrar, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the institution decides not to amend the record as requested, the institution will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student's right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3. The right to provide written consent before the institution discloses personally identifiable information from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

The institution discloses education records without a student's prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the institution in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position; a person or company with whom the institution has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using institution employees or officials (such as an attorney, auditor, collection agent, campus security personnel and a health provider); a person serving the institution in an advisory capacity; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks, or an accreditor or an official of the state's department of education. Please note that in certain circumstances, such as with an infectious disease, health threat or security threat, the school may disclose individually identifiable information without notice.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibilities for the institution. On request, the institution intends to disclose education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll and will also do so if the disclosure is initiated by the student.

The school is committed to the protection of student education information. The school does not publish a student directory, however the school may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without a student's written consent, unless the student has advised the school to the contrary. The school expressly limits its designated directory information to students' names, addresses, phone numbers, graduation dates, programs of study, degrees, diplomas, certificates, dates of attendance and

honors/awards received. A student who wishes to opt-out of the disclosure of this information must inform the Registrar's Office in writing. However, the school reserves the right to release to police agencies and/or crime victims any records or information pertinent to a crime which has occurred on campus, including the details of any disciplinary action taken against the alleged perpetrator of the crime.

4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the institution to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is: Student Privacy Policy Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202

The following are exemptions to FERPA:

- Financial records submitted by a student's parent(s);
- Grades and access to student education records to parents who certify that the student is financially dependent;
- A school official who has a legitimate educational interest and needs to review an educational record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. A school official is a person employed by the school in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position, or a person or company with whom the school has contracted, such as an attorney, auditor, collection agent, employment agency, or loan management agency, or a person serving on the Board of Governors, or a student serving on an official committee or assisting another school official in performing his/her tasks;
- Confidential letters of recommendation received by the school prior to January 1, 1975. For such letters received after December 31, 1974, the Act permits students to waive their right to access if the letters are related to admissions, employment, or honors;
- School security records;
- Employment records for school employees who are not current students;
- Records compiled or maintained by physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, or other recognized professionals or paraprofessionals acting or assisting in such capacities for treatment purposes, and which are available only to persons providing the treatment;
- Authorized representatives of the U.S. Government, state and local authorities where required, and accrediting agencies;
- Appropriate persons or agencies in the event of a health or safety emergency, when a release without consent is necessary under the circumstances; and
- Records requested through court order or subpoena.