

# FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT (FERPA)

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The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords eligible students and their parents certain rights with respect to their education records, including those stated below. The rights afforded to, and consent required of, parents under this Act transfer from the parents to the student once the student becomes eligible.

1. Online student records are maintained for a minimum of 6 years from the end of the award year aid was last awarded or award year you last attended. Onsite student records are retained for a minimum of 5 years from the end of the award year aid was last awarded or award year you last attended. Academic transcripts are maintained indefinitely.
2. You have the right to inspect and review your education records during normal school hours with an appointment within 45 days of the day the Office of the Registrar receives a written, dated request for access. You are not permitted to inspect or review confidential student guidance notes maintained by the University, nor financial records, including any information those records contain, of your parents or guardians.
3. You have the right to request the amendment of education records that you believe are inaccurate, misleading, or a violation of privacy. To request amendment of an education record, submit a written, dated request to the Office of the Registrar, clearly identify the part of the record you want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate, misleading, or a violation of privacy. If the University decides not to amend the record, you will be notified of the decision and your right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided when you are notified of the right to a hearing.
4. You have the right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in your education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without prior consent from the parents or the eligible student, as applicable. The University may neither release nor disclose personally identifiable information contained in your education records to outside employers, agencies, or individuals without first securing a written release from you or your parent, as applicable, unless permitted by the Act. If you consent to allow the disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in your education records, you may also revoke your consent, in writing, with respect to any actions occurring after such revocation. For more information about authorizing a chosen third party to access your education records, please contact your Student Advisor. One exception to the above student record release policy permits disclosure without consent to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the University in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position, including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff, or a person or company with whom the University is affiliated or has contracted such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent. The University can designate approved third parties as school officials. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill a professional responsibility. Upon request, the University discloses educational records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

5. You have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the University to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-4605