

FAQ's to Understanding FERPA

What is FERPA?

- The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords student certain rights with respect to their education records.
- FERPA is a Federal law
- Also known as the Buckley Amendment
- Protects the privacy of student's educational records

What Are Education Records?

All documents, papers, letters, maps, books, tapes, photographs, and computer-based or generated information of an institution that:

- Contains information directly related to the student, and;
- Are maintained by an agency or institution or party acting in its behalf.

What Are a Student's Rights under FERPA to?

- Inspect academic record
- Request an amendment to the records
- Challenge the accuracy of the records
- Prevent unauthorized disclosure of the records
- File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) about a violation of FERPA
- Waive these rights in writing

What Rights Do Parents Have Under "FERPA"?

- FERPA gives certain rights to parents regarding their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student:
- Upon reaching 18 years of age
- Attending any school beyond the secondary level

When Can a Parent Access a Student's Record?

- With the written consent of the student
- In response to a subpoena
- If student is claimed as a dependent for Federal income tax purposes
- A parent may access student information in emergency situations

FERPA Release Form

- Is available today at the Office of the Registrar

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