Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 grants certain rights, privileges, and protections related to students’ educational records maintained by the University. Students’ educational records (with the exception of directory information) will not be released to third parties outside of the University, except with the written consent of the student. Students have the right to inspect their own educational records, except for those to which students have expressly waived this right (e.g., Career Services placement files or graduate school recommendations). Students have the right to request amendment of their records, if they are found to be inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the students’ privacy or other rights. Such requests should be made as soon as the student becomes aware of the inaccuracy or any other problem.

Any student may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning any alleged failure on the part of the University to comply with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Directory Information

Student records considered to be “directory information” and therefore subject to release to a third party include:

1. name, campus address, home address, telephone listing and campus email address.
2. state of residence
3. age, date, and place of birth
4. sex and marital status
5. name of advisor
6. name and address of parent(s)
7. major field of study, including the college, division, department, or program in which the student is enrolled
8. classification as a freshman, sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate student, or by number referring to such cases
9. participation in officially recognized activities and sports
10. weight and height of members of athletic teams
11. dates of attendance and graduation, and degrees received
12. the most recent educational institutional attended
13. honors and awards received, including selection to a Dean’s list or honorary organization, and the grade point average of students selected
14. photographic, video or electronic images of students taken and maintained by the University

Any student wishing to withhold this information from third-party access must inform the Registrar in writing no later than the 10th class day of the semester.

For complete and up-to-date information on FERPA policy and procedures, please reference http://www2.montana.edu/policy/family_ed_privacy_act.htm.