



AP 5040 Student Records, Directory Information, and Privacy

References:

Education Code Sections 66093.3 and 76200 et seq.;
Title 5 Sections 54600 et seq. and 59410;
Civil Code Sections 1788.90 et seq. and 1798.85;
20 U.S. Code Section 1232g subdivision (j) (U.S. Patriot Act);
ACCJC Accreditation Standard II.C.8

1. Definitions

- a. "Student" is defined as a currently enrolled or formerly enrolled student.
- b. "Access" is a personal inspection and review of a record.
- c. "Student Records" are any item of administrative information directly related to an identifiable student maintained by the District.
- d. "Directory Information" consists of student records that may be released to anyone without prior notification and/or written permission of the student.
- e. "District" refers to any college or satellite campus within the Santa Clarita Community College District.

2. The following records are administrative records that are expressly exempted from the right to review and inspection.

- a. Financial records of parents of the student relating to applications for financial aid and scholarships.
- b. Confidential letters and statements or recommendations which were placed in the students' records before January 1, 1975.
- c. Appropriate records of instructional supervisory and/or administrative personnel which are in their sole possession and are not accessible or revealed to any other person.
- d. Human Resource Information pertaining to persons employed by the District.

3. Collection and Retention of Student Information

- a. The District shall treat all students equitably in the receipt of all school services, including, but not limited to, the gathering of student and family information for

the institution's benefit programs.

- b. The Admissions and Records department shall maintain in writing District policies and procedures for gathering and handling sensitive student information, and appropriate personnel shall receive training regarding those policies and procedures.
- c. The District will provide students and families with annual notice, at the beginning of each school year, of institutional policies for student privacy and the abilities of parents or eligible students to inspect student information.
- d. The District will provide students an opportunity to opt out of disclosure of directory information. Notices must describe the following:
 - i. The kind of information that the school has identified as directory information;
 - ii. The eligible student's ability to refuse to let the school designate the information as directory information, which could be disclosed to outside entities;
 - iii. The period of time in which the eligible student has to notify the school in writing that he/she/they does not want the information designated as directory information; and
 - iv. That opting out by the noted deadline is the students' only way to prevent the release of directory information.
- e. Any sensitive information, such as a student's, parent's, or guardian's SSN, any AB 540 determinations, or citizenship status information collected by the District or disclosed by the student, should be maintained only for as long as necessary.
- f. If the District possesses information that could indicate immigration status or citizenship status, the District shall not consider the acquired information in admissions decisions or access to educational courses or degree programs.
- g. Students may elect not to provide immigration or citizenship status information to the institution, and this election shall not impede admissions or enrollment in educational programs.
- h. The District shall not create a list of student names linked with immigration status.
- i. District police or security departments shall not inquire into an individual's immigration status for immigration enforcement purposes.
- j. District campus safety department shall not aid any effort to create a registry containing individuals' country of birth or based on any other protected characteristics of victims, witnesses, or suspects of crimes unless required by law for specified purposes.

4. Release of Student Records

- a. No instructor, official, employee, or Board of Trustees member shall authorize access to student records to any person except under the following circumstances:
 - i. Student records shall be released pursuant to a student's written consent.
 1. A student may provide written consent to a District Office to request the District release the information.
 - ii. "Directory information" may be released in accordance with the definitions in Board Policy 5040.
 - iii. Student records shall be released pursuant to a judicial order or a lawfully issued subpoena.
 1. Information concerning a student shall be furnished in compliance with a subpoena. The District shall make a reasonable effort to notify the student in advance of such compliance.
 - iv. Student records shall be released pursuant to a federal judicial order that has been issued regarding an investigation or prosecution of an offense concerning an investigation or prosecution of terrorism.
 - v. Student records may be released to officials and employees of the District only when they have a legitimate educational interest to inspect the record.
- b. Student records may be released to authorized representatives of the Comptroller General of the United States, the Secretary of Education, an administrative head of an education agency, state education officials, or their respective designees or the United States Office of Civil Rights, where that information is necessary to audit or evaluate a state or federally supported educational program or pursuant to federal or state law. Exceptions are that when the collection of personally identifiable information is specifically authorized by federal law, any data collected by those officials shall be protected in a manner that will not permit the personal identification of students or their parents by other than those officials, and any personally identifiable data shall be destroyed when no longer needed for that audit, evaluation, and enforcement of federal legal requirements.
- c. Student records may be released to officials of other public or private schools or school systems, including local, county, or state correctional facilities where education programs are provided, where the student seeks or intends to enroll or is directed to enroll. Procedures on providing such information are found in the Admissions and Records office.
- d. Student records may be released to agencies or organizations in connection with a student's application for, or receipt of, financial aid, provided that

information permitting the personal identification of those students may be disclosed only as may be necessary for those purposes as to financial aid, to determine the amount of the financial aid, or conditions that will be imposed regarding financial aid, or to enforce the terms or conditions of financial aid. Procedures on providing such information are found in the Financial Aid office.

- e. Student records may be released to organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, accrediting organizations, educational agencies or institutions for the purpose of developing, validating, or administering predictive tests, administering financial aid programs, and improving instruction, if those studies are conducted in such a manner as will not permit the personal identification of students or their parents by persons other than representatives of those organizations and the information will be destroyed when no longer needed for the purpose for which it is conducted. Procedures on providing such information are found in the Institutional Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness office.
 - f. Student records may be released to appropriate persons in connection with an emergency if the knowledge of that information is necessary to protect the health or safety of a student or other persons, subject to applicable federal or state law. Procedures on providing such information are found in the Dean of Student Services office.
 - g. The following information shall be released to the federal military for the purposes of federal military recruitment: student names, addresses, telephone listings, dates, and places of birth, levels of education, major(s), degrees received, prior military experience, or the most recent previous educational institutions enrolled in by the students. Procedures on providing such information are found in the Admissions and Records office.
5. Access to Student Records for Immigration Enforcement Purposes
- a. The District must obtain a student's written consent before disclosing educational records, unless the information is relevant for a legitimate educational interest or includes directory information only. Neither exception permits disclosing information for immigration enforcement purposes; no student information shall be disclosed for immigration enforcement purposes without a court order or judicial warrant. Without a court order or a judicial warrant, written consent must be signed and dated by the student, or (if the student is a minor) by the student's parent(s) or guardian(s), before disclosure of the information, and must specify the records that may be disclosed, the purpose of the disclosure, and the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made.
 - b. If desired by the student, the District must provide a copy of the records to be released. The party to whom the information is disclosed may not re-disclose the information to any other party without the prior consent of the student or

subsequent court order.

- c. District personnel shall develop a written policy for interactions with immigration authorities seeking to review student records. At minimum, such policies shall include the following information:
 - i. Contact information for the correct person to review and respond to a request for student records.

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 - ii. Access to sample warrant and subpoena documents that could be used for access onto campus property, or to seize or arrest students or other individuals on campus.
 - iii. District personnel shall provide a set of responses for employees to use in response to officers seeking access to records for immigration enforcement purposes.
 1. In addition to notifying the Associate Dean of Admissions, Records, and Veteran Services, District personnel shall take the following action steps in response to an officer other than campus police requesting access to student records:
 - a. Ask for the officer's name, identification number, and agency affiliation;
 - b. Record or copy this information;
 - c. Ask for a copy of any warrants;
 - d. Inform the officer that you are not obstructing his/her/their efforts but that you need to contact a campus administrator or campus counsel for assistance.
 - iv. Campus safety shall not provide personal information about an individual for immigration enforcement purposes, unless that information is publicly available, or required by a court order or judicial warrant. "Personal information" is defined as any information that identifies or describes an individual, and includes but is not limited to, a student's physical description, home or work address, telephone number, education, financial matters, medical or employment history, and statements made by, or attributed to, the individual.
 - v. Unless the District is served with a judicial subpoena or court order that by its terms prohibits disclosure to the student, the student must be notified of any judicial order or subpoena before the institution complies

with the order in accordance with FERPA.

6. Use of Social Security Numbers

- a. The District shall not do any of the following:
 - i. Publicly post or publicly display an individual's social security number;
 - ii. Print an individual's social security number on a card required to access products or services;
 - iii. Require an individual to transmit his/her/their social security number over the internet using a connection that is not secured or encrypted;
 - iv. Require an individual to use his/her/their social security number to access an Internet Web site without also requiring a password or unique personal identification number or other authentication device; or
 - v. Print, in whole or in part, an individual's social security number that is visible on any materials that are mailed to the individual, except those materials used for:
 - vi. Application or enrollment purposes;
 - vii. To establish, amend, or terminate an account, contract, or policy; or
 - viii. To confirm the accuracy of the social security number.
- b. If the District has, prior to January 1, 2004, used an individual's social security number in a manner inconsistent with the above restrictions, it may continue using that individual's social security number in that same manner only if:
 - i. The use of the social security number is continuous;
 - ii. The individual is provided an annual disclosure that informs the individual that he/she/they has the right to stop the use of his/her/their social security number in a manner otherwise prohibited;
 - iii. The District agrees to stop the use of an individual's social security number in a manner otherwise prohibited upon a written request by that individual;
 - iv. No fee shall be charged for implementing this request; and the District shall not deny services to an individual for making such a request.

7. Challenge of the Records

- a. Current or former students have the opportunity to challenge the content of their educational records to ensure the accuracy of the records, that the records are not misleading or otherwise in violation of their privacy or other rights, and to provide an opportunity for correction or deletion of any inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise inappropriate data contained in the records.
- b. Every effort will be made to settle a dispute concerning a student's records

through informal meetings with appropriate college officials and through the normal petition procedure.

8. Formal Student Record Challenge Procedure

- a. A student may file a written request with the Associate Dean of Admissions, Records, and Veteran Services to remove information recorded on his or her record which he or she alleges to be inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise inappropriate.
- b. Within 30 days of receipt of such a request, the Associate Dean of Admissions, Records, and Veteran Services or designee shall meet with the student and the employee who recorded the information in question to determine validity of the student's claim. A summary of the meeting will be recorded and any decisions made shall be in writing.
- c. If appropriate, the Associate Dean of Admissions, Records, and Veteran Services shall order the correction, removal, or destruction of the information in question.
- d. If the Associate Dean of Admissions, Records, and Veteran Services denies the allegations and refuses to order correction or removal of the information, the student may appeal the decision in writing to the Vice President of Student Services within 30 days of the written refusal.
- e. Within 30 days of receipt of the appeal, the Vice President of Student Services shall hold a hearing to determine whether to sustain or deny the allegations.
- f. If the hearing results in a decision to sustain the allegations, the records will be immediately corrected or removed. If the hearing results in a decision to deny the allegations, the records will remain and the decision will be presented in writing and shall be final.

Reviewed and Endorsed by CPC 5/25/21