

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (F.E.R.P.A.)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (F.E.R.P.A.) affords students certain rights with respect to their educational records. They are as follows:

- The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the college receives a request for access. Students should make a request to the registrar, associate academic dean, chair of the academic division, or other appropriate official, that identifies the specific record or records they wish to inspect. The college official will make arrangements for access, and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the college official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.
- The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Students may ask the college to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should contact the college official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the college decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the college will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of his or her 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.
- The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that F.E.R.P.A. authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception that permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the college in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person or company with whom the college has contracted (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the board of trustees; 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. 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 responsibility.
- The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the college to comply with the requirements of F.E.R.P.A. The name and address of the office that administers F.E.R.P.A. is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
600 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4605

American International College Contact:

Diane Furtek
Office of the Registrar
413-205-3211
Diane.Furtek@aic.edu
Lee Hall, Registrar's Office