



*Adrian College*

## **PRIVACY OF STUDENT RECORDS**

In accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, Adrian College has established policies and procedures to protect the privacy of student records. This policy appears below. Included in this policy are the categories of information designated as "public information." Students have the right to withhold directory information from the public. They may do this by notifying the Housing Office in writing as described in the policy.

## **THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT RIGHTS UNDER FERPA**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. They are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the date the College receives a request for access.

Students should submit to the registrar, dean, head of the academic department or other appropriate official, written requests that identify the record(s) 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.

2. 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 write 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.

3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception which 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 or 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.

In its discretion the College may provide directory information without notice or prior consent. Directory information includes the following: student name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student. Students may withhold directory information from the printed directory by notifying the Housing Office in writing within two weeks after the first day of class each semester.

Requests for non-disclosure will be honored by the College for only one academic year; therefore, authorization to withhold directory information must be filed annually in the Housing Office.

4. 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 FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

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