

STUDENT RECORDS AND DIRECTORY INFORMATION

BP No. 5040

Board Adopted: 12/6/78, 1/10/79, 11/21/07; 1/14/09; 6/8/16

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- I. The Superintendent/President or designee shall assure that student records are maintained in compliance with applicable federal and state laws relating to the privacy of student records.
- II. The Superintendent/President or designee may direct the implementation of appropriate safeguards to assure that student records cannot be accessed or modified by any person not authorized to do so.
- III. Any currently enrolled or former student of the Rio Hondo Community College District has a right of access to any and all student records relating to him or her maintained by the district except under exclusions contained in Board Policy 5035.
- IV. No District representative shall release the contents of a student record to any member of the public without the prior written consent of the student, other than directory information as defined in this policy and information sought pursuant to a court order or lawfully issued subpoena, or as otherwise authorized by applicable federal and state laws.
- V. Students shall be notified of their rights with respect to student records, including the definition of directory information contained here, and that they may limit the information.
- VI. Directory information shall include:
 - A. Student's name, student participation in officially recognized activities and sports information to include weight, height and high school of graduation of athletic team members.
 - B. Degrees and awards received by students, including honors, scholarship awards, athletic awards and Dean's List recognition.
- VII. To ensure the rights of students concerning release of information, students may complete requests for non-disclosure on an annual basis if withholding of Directory information is desired.
- VIII. Sources/References:

Education Code Sections 76200, et seq.;
Title 5, Sections 54600, et seq.
20 U.S. Code Section 1232g(i)
ACCJC Accreditation Standard II.C.8

See Administrative Procedure 5040.

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A cumulative record of enrollment, scholarship, and educational progress shall be kept for each student. The College catalog will include information on students' rights under the Student Rights and Privacy Act.

- I. Access to Educational Records: All currently enrolled and former students have the right to review and inspect their educational records in the Admissions and Records Office provided they make a written request five (5) days in advance. Qualified personnel will be present to interpret records for the student.
- II. 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:
 1. Student records shall be released pursuant to a student's written consent. Access to a student's educational record may be permitted to any person for whom the student has executed a written consent specifying the records to be released and identifying the party to whom the records may be released. The consent notice shall be permanently kept with the student's records. The recipient of such records will be notified by Admissions and Records that the transmission of information to third parties is prohibited.
 2. "Directory information" may be released in accordance with the definitions in Board Policy 5040.
 3. Students desiring to withhold "Directory Information" should check the "confidential" checkbox when they submit their application for admission. Students may also file a "Release of Information" form with the Director, Admissions and Records or the Financial Aid office. The College reserves the right to limit or deny the release of specific categories of directory information based upon a determination of the best interests of the student(s). "Directory Information" may be released unless a stop action or notice to "quash" is initiated by the student.
 4. Student records shall be released pursuant to a judicial order or a lawfully issued subpoena. Admissions and Records will complete the subpoena request within fifteen (15) business days and will send the documents through certified mail.
 5. 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.
 6. Student records may be released to officials and employees of the District only when they have a legitimate educational interest to

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inspect the records. Requests must be submitted in writing to the Director of Admissions and Records.

- 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. Requests must be submitted in writing to the Director of Admissions and Records.
- 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. The release is subject to the conditions in Education Code Section 76225. Requests must be submitted in writing to the Director of Admissions and Records.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- G. Written requests must be submitted in writing to the Director of Admissions and Records for items A-F.

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- H. 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, degrees received, prior military experience, and/or the most recent previous educational institutions enrolled in by the students.
- III. Charge for Transcripts or Verifications of Student Records: A student/former student shall be entitled to two free copies of the transcript of his/her record or to two free verifications of various student records. Additional copies shall be made available to the student, or to an addressee designated by him/her, at the designated rate. Students may request special processing of a transcript.
- IV. Electronic Transcripts: Student transcripts may be received and transmitted electronically.
- V. Use of Social Security Numbers:
- A. The District shall not do any of the following:
1. Publicly post or publicly display an individual's Social Security number;
 2. Print an individual's Social Security number on a card required to access products or services;
 3. Require an individual to transmit his/her Social Security number over the internet using a connection that is not secured or encrypted;
 4. Require an individual to use his/her Social Security number to access an Internet Web site without also requiring a password or unique personal identification number or other authentication devise; or
 5. 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:
 - Application or enrollment purposes;
 - To establish, amend, or terminate an account, contract, or policy; or
 - 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:
1. The use of the Social Security number is continuous;

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2. The individual is provided an annual disclosure that informs the individual that he/she has the right to stop the use of his/her Social Security number in a manner otherwise prohibited;
3. 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;
4. No fee shall be charged for implementing this request; and the District shall not deny services to an individual for making such a request.

II. Sources/References:

Education Code Sections 71091 and 76200 et seq.;
Title 5 Sections 54600 et seq.;
U.S. Code Section 1232g(j) (U.S. Patriot Act);
Civil Code Section 1798.85;
ACCJC Accreditation Standard II.C.8