

ACCESS TO RECORDS

The California Legislature passed S.B. 182 (Stull), which codifies provisions of the Education Code and the Federal statutes implementing the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (Buckley Amendment). This permits students to inspect their personally identifiable records maintained by the College and permits access to these records only upon the student's request (other than to certain specified categories). Information on these laws and college procedures in implementing them may be obtained from the Associate Dean of Admissions, who serves as the College Records Officer. Copies of pertinent state and federal legislation are available for inspection.

Los Angeles Mission College considers the following information relating to a student to be directory information: student's name, city of residence, date of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student. Students who do not wish any or all of the above categories of information to be given out should so indicate on their application at time of enrolling. Los Angeles Mission College uses the social security number as a student identification number. Students are asked to voluntarily provide their social security number for this purpose.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS & PRIVACY ACT (FERPA) NOTIFICATION

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students the following rights with respect to their educational records:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's educational records, including discipline records, within 45 days from the date the College receives a request for access.
 - Students may submit to the College Admissions Office written requests that identify the specific record(s) they wish to inspect. Within 45

days, the College Admissions Office will make arrangements for access and will notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

- Educational records are those records that are directly related to students and are maintained by the College. Students may not inspect educational records pertaining to parents' financial records and certain confidential letters or recommendations.
2. The right to request an amendment of the student's educational records that the student believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights.
 - With the exception of grade grievances which are handled through Administrative Regulation E-55, students may ask the College President or his/her designee to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of their privacy rights. A student seeking to amend an educational record should write to the College President and clearly identify the part of the record he/she wants changed and specify why it is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of his/her privacy rights.
 - If the College President or his/her designee decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the College, in accordance with section 99.21 of the Code of Federal Regulations and Section 76232 of the Education Code, will notify the student of the decision and of his/her right to a hearing.
 3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's educational records, except to the extent that FERPA and California law authorize disclosures without consent.
 - If a student authorizes the release of his/her education record to a third party, he/she shall notify the College Admissions Office authorizing said release with a specific list of the information to be released.
- Federal and California law authorize certain disclosures of personally identifiable information without a student's written consent. One such exception is the disclosure of personally identifiable information to school officials with legitimate educational interests. School officials with legitimate educational interests are employees or agents of the Los Angeles Community College District who need to review educational records in order to fulfill their professional responsibilities.
4. The right to restrict disclosure of personally identifiable information that the College has designated as directory information which may be released without the written consent of the student.
 - Directory information may be disclosed without a student's consent unless the student has notified the college that he/she does not want all or portions of the directory information released. To do so, the student must submit the appropriate District form to the College Admissions Office requesting that some or all of the categories of directory information not be released without his/her consent. This form must be submitted in accordance with College policy.
 - Pursuant to Board Rule 5201.10, the Los Angeles Community College District has designated the following student information as directory information:
 - a. The student's name, city of residence, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student.
 - b. Student employee records may be released in order to comply with collective bargaining agreements.

District Information

c. The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of students or former students may be released to the foundation for each college for college-related activities at the discretion of the College President, unless the student or former student has informed the College that such information should not be released. The release of this information is conditional upon the foundation's agreement that such information will be released in accordance with District policy and that information will not be released to third parties.

d. At the discretion of the College President, the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of students from the College may be released to heads of private and/or public institutions of higher education or their designees for the purpose of providing information to the student regarding transfer opportunities to those institutions, unless the student has indicated that such information should not be released. The release of this information will be conditional upon the institution's agreement that student privacy rights under federal and state law will be protected and that information will not be released to third parties.

5. 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 S.W.
Washington, DC 20202-4605

STUDENT RIGHT-TO-KNOW DISCLOSURE

In compliance with the Student Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-542), it is the policy of the Los Angeles Community College District and Los Angeles Mission College to make available its completion and transfer rates to all current and prospective students. Beginning in Fall 1996 a cohort of all certificate, degree, and transfer-seeking first-time, full-time students was tracked over a three-year period. Their completion and transfer rates are listed below. These rates do not represent the success rates of the entire student population at all California community colleges, nor do they account for student outcomes occurring after this three-year tracking period.

Based upon the cohort defined above, 28.2 percent attained a certificate, degree, or became "transfer-prepared" during a three-year period from Fall 1997 to Spring 2000. Students who are transfer-prepared have completed 56 transferable units with a GPA of 2.00 or better.

Based upon the cohort defined above, 29.8 percent transferred to another post-secondary institution (CSU, UC, or another California community college) prior to attaining a degree, certificate, or becoming "transfer-prepared" during a five-semester period from Spring 1998 to Spring 2000.

Further information about Student Right-To-Know Rates and how they should be interpreted can be found at the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Student Right-To-Know Disclosure website located at <http://srthk.cccco.edu/index.asp>

STUDENT GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

The Student Grievance Procedure is to provide a prompt and equitable means for resolving student grievances. The grievance procedure may be initiated by a student or group of students who reasonably believe that he/she/they have been subject to unjust action or denied rights that adversely affect his/her/their status, rights, or privileges as a student. The grievance procedure is detailed in District Administrative Regulation E-55, which is available to any student or applicant to the college in the Student Services Office and from the Campus Ombudsperson.

This grievance procedure does not apply to the challenge process for prerequisites, corequisites, advisories, and limitations on enrollment; alleged violations of sexual harassment; actions dealing with student discipline; alleged discrimination on the basis of ethnic group identification, religion, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability; an appeal for residency decision; or to eligibility, disqualification, or reinstatement of financial aid.

In addition, Section 76224 of the California Education Code provides the following:

"When grades are given for any course of instruction taught in a community college district, the grade given to each student shall be the grade determined by the instructor of the course and the determination of the student's grade by the instructor, in the absence of mistake, fraud, bad faith, or incompetency, shall be final."

The following steps should be taken to begin the grievance procedure:

Step I - Informal Resolution

All parties involved in a potential grievance should be encouraged to seek an informal remedy. The student shall make a reasonable effort to resolve the matter on an informal basis by:

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