

Issues raised to LeRoy Rooker after AACRAO Webinar 3/26/08

Student access to his/her own records may not be blocked due to outstanding balance due to the school. However, copies to others may be prohibited until balance is paid.

Students may request to opt-out of some or all of directory information. However, school can determine that opting out of any information means opting out of all information if that is more manageable for school. Once student opts out, it remains in effect after enrollment ends. Once enrollment ends, schools not obligated to offer or allow opt-out to students.

Billing and financial information cannot be classified as directory information.

Students may be charged for copies of their records if original records can not be conveniently viewed by students. However, schools may not charge a search and retrieval fee for locating records in archives, etc. If a student grants release to his/her attorney but attorney cannot make it to campus to view records, schools are not obligated to send records to attorney. Student can request and pay for copies if necessary.

Students may request an amendment to their records but this doesn't apply to grades or other evaluations that are done on students' performance.

Schools may release information to organizations doing research, but student-based organizations are not covered under this exception.

If student is dependent on either parent, schools may release information to both parents, even non-custodial parents. Step-parents may receive information only if custodial.

FERPA does not require schools to disclose information to parents, but state law can compel the disclosure as is the case in proposed State of Virginia legislation.