

What is FERPA and how does it affect me?

- The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, FERPA, provides the structure for disclosure of student academic records.
- As directed by FERPA, Directory Information, as defined below, is subject to disclosure without the consent of the student unless the student notifies the Office of the Registrar in writing that any or all of the information designated should not be released without the student's prior consent.
- In order to place a restriction on the release of directory information, the student must provide written notice at the beginning of each semester.
- Forms to invoke confidentiality, or to revoke it, as well as more information on FERPA, can be found on: www.wmich.edu/registrar/FERPA.html
- **Directory Information as defined at WMU:**
 - Name
 - Address
 - Telephone number
 - Date and place of birth
 - Curriculum and major field of study
 - Dates of attendance
 - Enrollment status (full/part time)
 - Degrees/Awards received
 - Most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student
 - Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
 - Weight/Height of members of athletic teams
- Non-directory information, such as grades and grade point averages, never released to agencies outside the University, unless required by law, without the written consent of the student.
- Grade and GPA information is never given out over the telephone.
- Questions related to FERPA or directory information should be directed to the Office of the Registrar, 269-387-4310, or registrar-info@wmich.edu.