

505-2-.41 PRIVACY OF INFORMATION

(1) Background. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) is a federal law regarding an individual's right to privacy; the Buckley/Pell amendment (Privacy Act) sets extensive guidelines for the release and subsequent use of information from post-secondary education records.

(2) Procedures.

(a) Education records, once released by an institution, are the property of the student and may be released only for a specific purpose (i.e., employment or certification). The organization receiving the transcripts is responsible for protecting the document owner's privacy. The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GaPSC) will not, without the applicant's authorization, release any information not considered public record under federal and state law.

(b) Information will not be released to the spouse, parent, sibling or children of an individual without specific authorization. Confidential information, such as test scores and grades on transcripts, will not be released.

(c) The GaPSC, while maintaining microfilm and electronic copies of original transcripts, cannot copy or provide copies of transcripts to individuals or to other offices, agencies or institutions except in cases of criminal or GaPSC Ethics Division Investigation.

Authority O.C.G.A. 20-2-200