

What is FERPA and why is it important to me?

Family **E**ducation **R**ights and **P**rivacy **A**ct

As you can see, your rights for privacy are protected by a special act of congress called FERPA. Simply stated, we can't let people see your education records without your permission.

This is why, when you want a transcript to go somewhere, we have to have a signed release to send them. We can't just send your transcript out to whomever we choose. Only you have the right to reveal your academic records.

There are exceptions. Officials of the university with a legitimate need to see your records can see them. This includes the faculty, administrators, and most staff. There is a list under the FAQ, "Who has access to my education records without my knowledge?"

We are also required by law to provide certain information to military recruiters.

We can also release what is called "directory information" without your consent. See the FAQ "What information will SPSU release about me to third parties without my consent?"