

WIREGRASS GEORGIA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Annual FERPA Notification

Notification of Student Rights Provided by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) provide certain rights to students with respect to their educational records. Those rights are as follows:

The right to inspect and review the educational record within 45 days of the day the College receives a request for access.

Students should submit a written request to the Office of the Registrar identifying the records(s) they wish to inspect. The Registrar, or his/her designee, will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. Wiregrass Georgia Technical College provides web access to some student records through **BanWeb** provided the student has an up-to-date username and password. Inspection of paper documents may be accomplished by contacting Enrollment Management and setting up an appointment.

The right to request amendment of the educational record if the student believes the record is inaccurate or misleading. Students may ask the College to amend a record believed to be inaccurate or misleading.

The student should submit the written request to the Office of the Registrar and clearly identify the part of the record that is believed to be inaccurate or misleading. *This does not include issues such as grade appeals. The student should specify why the information is inaccurate or misleading. If the College decides not to amend the record as requested by the student, the College will notify the student of the decision and advise the student of his/her right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.

The right to consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's educational record, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception that permits disclosure without consent is a disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the College in an administrative, supervisory, or support staff position (including the Wiregrass Georgia Technical College Police Department). Additionally, a person or company with whom the College has contracted is considered a school official for this purpose; i.e. the College Attorney, an auditor, collection agent, Board of Trustees member, student serving on an official committee, student assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the College discloses educational records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

The right to file a complaint with the United States Department of Education concerning alleged failure of the College to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is the Family Compliance Office, United States Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Washington DC 20202-5920

Directory Information

FERPA permits institutions to identify certain items of information as “directory information.” This information may be released upon request unless the student, during the first ten days of the term, has indicated, in writing to the Records Office, that he or she does not wish directory information be released.

Directory information at Wiregrass Georgia Technical College includes:

- **Full Name of Student**
- **City of Residence**
- **County of Residence**
- **Major and Field(s) of Study**
- **Enrollment Status (full time, part-time, etc.)**
- **Degrees and Awards and Date Received**
- **Dates of Attendance**
- **Participation in Official Sports and Activities**
- **Height and Weight of Athletic Team Members**

A form for to Object the Release of Directory information is available by clicking [here](#). This form will also prevent a student’s information from being released in any Wiregrass Press Releases, as well as in the Students Commencement program.

According to FERPA, the College may release information without the student’s written consent to the following:

- School officials, as identified by the College, determined by the College to have a legitimate educational interest in the student information
- Officials of other institutions to which the student seeks enrollment
- Persons or organizations providing financial aid to the student or determining financial aid decisions
- Accrediting organizations carrying out their accrediting functions
- A parent of a student who has established that the student is a dependent according to the IRS Code of 1986, Section 152
- Persons in compliance with a judicial order or a lawfully issued subpoena
- Persons in an emergency situation, if the knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons

Information to Military Recruiters

The Solomon Amendment to FERPA requires the College, upon request, to provide “student recruiting information” on any currently enrolled student who is at least 17 years old to any branch of the armed services. “Student recruiting information” is defined by federal law as name, address, telephone numbers, age or date of birth, class level, degrees received, major. Recruiters must submit their requests in writing to the Office of the Registrar.

Questions regarding Wiregrass Georgia Technical College’s compliance with FERPA may be directed to the Office of Registrar.

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