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**Kern Community College  
District Board Policy  
Chapter 5 - Student Services**

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**BP 5040            Student Records Directory Information and Privacy**

**Accreditation Related**

**References:**

Education Code Sections 76200 et seq.;  
Title 5 Sections 54600 et seq.;  
20 U.S. Code Section 1232g subdivision (j);  
ACCJC Accreditation Standard II.C.8

The Chancellor or designee shall assure that student records are maintained in compliance with applicable federal and state laws relating to the privacy of student records.

The Chancellor or designee may direct the implementation of appropriate safeguards to assure that student records cannot be accessed or modified by any person not authorized to do so.

Any currently enrolled or former student of the District has a right of access to any and all student records relating to him or her maintained by the District.

Upon request by a former student of the District, the District shall update and reissue student records to include an updated legal name or gender. These documents include but are not limited to transcripts or a diploma.

Commencing with the 2023–24 graduating class, a graduating student may request the District confer the diploma in the student’s chosen name. The District shall not require a graduating student to provide legal documentation to demonstrate a legal name or gender change in order to have the student’s chosen name listed on the student’s diploma.

No District representative shall release the contents of a student record to any member of the public without the prior written consent of the student, other than directory information as defined in this policy and information sought pursuant to a court order or lawfully issued subpoena, or as otherwise authorized by applicable federal and state laws.

Students shall be notified of their rights with respect to student records, including the definition of directory information contained here, and that they may limit the information.

Directory information shall include:

- Student names, address, e-mail address and telephone number;
- Student participation in officially recognized activities and sports including weight, height and high school of graduation of athletic team members; and
- Degrees and awards received by students, including honors, scholarship awards, athletic awards and Dean's List recognition.



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**Kern Community College District  
Administrative Procedure  
Chapter 5 – Student Services**

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**Governance Process: Information Only**

**Reason for Revision: To Amend District Procedure**

**AP 5040 Student Records, Directory Information, and Privacy**

**Accreditation Related**

**References:**

Education Code Sections 66093.3, 66271.4, and 76200 et seq.;  
Title 5 Sections 54600 et seq. and 59410;  
Civil Code Sections 1788.90 et seq. and 1798.85;  
20 U.S. Code Section 1232g subdivision (j) (U.S. Patriot Act); ACCJC  
Accreditation Standard II.C.8

**Note: This procedure is legally required.**

A cumulative record of enrollment, scholarship, and educational progress shall be kept for each student.

**Collection and Retention of Student Information**

The District shall treat all students equitably in the receipt of all school services, including, but not limited to, the gathering of student and family information for the institution's benefit programs.

The colleges shall maintain in writing District policies and procedures for gathering and handling sensitive student information, and appropriate personnel shall receive training regarding those policies and procedures.

The colleges will provide students and families with annual notice, at the beginning of each school year, of institutional policies for student privacy and the abilities of parents or eligible students to inspect student information.

The colleges will provide students an opportunity to opt out of disclosure of directory information. Notices must describe the following:

- The kind of information that the school has identified as directory information;
- The eligible student's ability to refuse the designation of information as directory

information, which could be disclosed to outside entities;

- The period of time in which the eligible student has to notify the school in writing that he/she/they does not want the information designated as directory information; and
- That opting out by the noted deadline is the students' only way to prevent the release of directory information.

Any sensitive information, such as a student's, parent's, or guardian's SSN, AB 540 determinations, or citizenship status information collected by the District or disclosed by the student, should be maintained only for as long as necessary.

If the District possesses information that could indicate immigration status or citizenship status, the District shall not consider the acquired information in admissions decisions or access to educational courses or degree programs.

Students may elect not to provide immigration or citizenship status information to the institution, and this election shall not impede admissions or enrollment in educational programs.

The District shall not create a list of student names linked with immigration status.

Campus Safety departments shall not inquire into an individual's immigration status for immigration enforcement purposes.

Campus Safety departments shall not aid any effort to create a registry containing individuals' country of birth or based on any other protected characteristics of victims, witnesses, or suspects of crimes unless required by law for specified purposes.

**Release of Student Records:** No instructor, official, employee, or Board of Trustees member shall authorize access to student records to any person except under the following circumstances:

- Student records shall be released pursuant to a student's written consent. Students wishing to inspect, review, or challenge any of their educational records must make a request in writing to the Director of Admissions & Records;
- "Directory information" may be released in accordance with the definitions in Board Policy 5040;
- Student records shall be released pursuant to a judicial order or a lawfully issued subpoena;
- Student records shall be released pursuant to a federal judicial order that has been issued regarding an investigation or prosecution of an offense concerning an investigation or prosecution of terrorism; or
- Student records may be released to officials and employees of the District only when they have a legitimate educational interest to inspect the record.

Student records may be released to authorized representatives of the Comptroller General of the United States, the Secretary of Education, an administrative head of an education

agency, state education officials, or their respective designees or the United States Office of Civil Rights, where that information is necessary to audit or evaluate a state or federally supported educational program or pursuant to federal or state law. When the collection of personally identifiable information is specifically authorized by federal law, data collected by those officials shall be protected in a manner that will not permit the personal identification of students or their parents by other than those officials, and any personally identifiable data shall be destroyed when no longer needed for that audit, evaluation, and enforcement of federal legal requirements.

Student records may be released to officials of other public or private schools or school systems, including local, county, or state correctional facilities through which education programs are provided, and where the student seeks or intends to enroll or is directed to enroll. The release is subject to the conditions in Education Code Section 76225.

Student records may be released to agencies or organizations in connection with a student's application for, or receipt of, financial aid, provided that information permitting the personal identification of those students may be disclosed only as is necessary for those purposes of financial aid, to determine the amount of the financial aid, conditions that will be imposed regarding financial aid, or to enforce the terms or conditions of financial aid.

Student records may be released to organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, accrediting organizations, educational agencies, or institutions for the purpose of developing, validating, or administering predictive tests, administering financial aid programs, and improving instruction, if those studies are conducted in such a manner as not to permit the personal identification of students or their parents by persons other than representatives of those organizations, and that the information will be destroyed when no longer needed for the purpose for which it is conducted.

Student records may be released to appropriate persons in connection with an emergency if the knowledge of that information is necessary to protect the health or safety of a student or other persons, subject to applicable federal or state law.

The following information shall be released to the federal military for the purposes of federal military recruitment: Student names, addresses, telephone listings, dates and places of birth, levels of education, major(s), degrees received, prior military experience, or the most recent previous educational institutions enrolled in by the students.

### **Access to Student Records for Immigration Enforcement Purposes**

The District must obtain a student's written consent before disclosing educational records, unless the information is relevant for a legitimate educational interest or includes directory information only. Neither exception permits disclosing information for immigration enforcement purposes. Student information shall not be disclosed for immigration enforcement purposes without a court order or judicial warrant. Otherwise, written consent must be signed and dated by the student, or, if the student is a minor, by the student's parent or guardian, before disclosure of the information, and must specify the records that may be disclosed, the purpose of the disclosure, and the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made.

If desired by the student, the District must provide a copy of the records to be released. The party to whom the information is disclosed may not re-disclose the information to any other party without the prior consent of the student or subsequent court order.

District personnel shall develop a written policy for interactions with immigration authorities seeking to review student records. At minimum, such policies shall include the following information:

- Contact information for the correct person to review and respond to a request for student records is as follows: Office of General Counsel, Phone: 661-336-5040 Kern Community College District, General Counsel, 2100 Chester Avenue, Bakersfield, CA 93301. See BP 3810.
- Access to sample warrant and subpoena documents that could be used for access onto campus property, or to seize or arrest students or other individuals on campus.
- District personnel shall provide a set of responses for building personnel to use in response to officers seeking access to records for immigration enforcement purposes.

In addition to notifying the designated campus officer, District personnel shall take the following action steps in response to an officer other than Campus Safety officers requesting access to student records:

1. Ask for the officer's name, identification number, and agency affiliation;
2. Record or copy this information;
3. Ask for a copy of any warrants; and
4. Inform the officer that this process is not obstructing his/her/their efforts but is a required procedure to contact a campus administrator or campus counsel for assistance.

Campus Safety departments shall not provide personal information about an individual for immigration enforcement purposes, unless that information is publicly available, or required by a court order or judicial warrant. "Personal information" is defined as any information that identifies or describes an individual, and includes but is not limited to, a student's physical description, home or work address, telephone number, education, financial matters, medical or employment history, and statements made by, or attributed to, the individual. This restriction does not apply to information regarding the immigration or citizenship status of an individual.

Unless the District is served with a judicial subpoena or court order that, by its terms, prohibits disclosure to the student, the student must be notified of any judicial order or subpoena before the institution complies with the order in accordance with FERPA.

**Charge for Transcripts or Verifications of Student Records:**

A student/former student shall be entitled to two (2) free copies of the transcript of his/her/their record or to two (2) free verifications of various student records. Additional copies shall be made available to the student, or to an addressee designated by him/her/them, at the rate not

to exceed \$20 per copy. The exact cost of additional copies varies by college and method of processing the transcript. Students may request special processing of a transcript. The District will not refuse to provide a transcript for a current or former student on the grounds that the student owes a debt; condition the provision of a transcript on the payment of a debt, other than a fee charged to provide the transcript; charge a higher fee for obtaining a transcript or provide less favorable treatment of a transcript request because a student owes a debt; or use transcript issuance as a tool for debt collection.

### **Electronic Transcripts**

The District may elect to implement a process for the receipt and transmission of electronic student transcripts contingent upon receipt of sufficient funding.

### **Use of Social Security Numbers**

The District shall not do any of the following:

- Publicly post or publicly display an individual's Social Security Number;
- Print an individual's Social Security Number on a card required to access products or services;
- Require an individual to transmit his/her/their Social Security Number over the internet using a connection that is not secured or encrypted;
- Require an individual to use his/her/their Social Security Number to access an internet website without also requiring a password or unique personal identification number or other authentication device; or
- Print, in whole or in part, an individual's social security number that is visible on any materials that are mailed to the individual, except those materials used for:
  - Application or enrollment purposes;
  - To establish, amend, or terminate an account, contract, or policy; or

To confirm the accuracy of the Social Security Number.

If the District has, prior to January 1, 2004, used an individual's Social Security Number in a manner inconsistent with the above restrictions, it may continue using that individual's Social Security Number in that same manner only if:

The use of the Social Security Number is continuous;

- The individual is provided an annual disclosure that informs the individual that he/she/they has the right to stop the use of his/her/their Social Security Number in a manner otherwise prohibited; or
- The District agrees to stop the use of an individual's Social Security Number in a manner otherwise prohibited upon a written request by that individual; No fee shall be charged for implementing this request; and the District shall not deny services to an individual for making such a request.

### **Name and Gender Changes to Former Student Records**

If the District receives government-issued documentation, as described below, from a former student demonstrating that the former student's legal name or gender has been changed, the District shall update the former student's records to include the updated legal name or gender. If requested by the former student, the District shall reissue any documents conferred upon

the former student with the former student's updated legal name or gender. Documents that shall be reissued by the District upon request include, but are not necessarily limited to, a transcript or a diploma conferred by the institution.

The District shall not charge a higher fee for correcting, updating, or reissuing a document based on a legal name or gender change than the fee it charges for correcting, updating, or reissuing that document generally.

The documentation of a former student sufficient to demonstrate a legal name or gender change includes, but is not necessarily limited to, any of the following:

- State-issued driver's license or identification card;
- Birth certificate;
- Passport;
- Social security card;
- Court order indicating a name change or a gender change, or both.

The District is not required to modify records that the former student has not requested for modification or reissuance.

Commencing with the 2023–24 graduating class, a graduating student may request that the District confer the diploma in the student's chosen name. The District cannot require a graduating student to provide legal documentation to demonstrate a legal name or gender change in order to have the student's chosen name listed on the student's diploma.