Notification of Your Rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. These rights include:

(1) The right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days of the day the University receives a request for access.

A student should submit to the registrar of his or her school or program a written request that identifies the record(s) the student wishes to inspect. The registrar will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

(2) The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA.

A student who wishes to ask the University to amend a record should write the registrar of his or her school or program, clearly identify the part of the record the student wants to have changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the University decides not to amend the record as requested, the University will notify the student in writing of the decision and the student’s 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.

(3) The right to provide written consent before the University discloses personally identifiable information from the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

Title 34 Section 99.31 of the Code of Federal Regulations describes the circumstances in which the University may disclose personally identifiable information without a student’s consent. The following are additional important details on Yale’s policy regarding three of those circumstances:

(a) The University discloses education records without a student’s prior written consent under the FERPA exception for disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the University in an administrative, supervisory, academic or research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person or company with whom the University has contracted as its agent to provide a service instead of using University employees or officials; fellows of the Yale Corporation and non-trustee members of Yale Corporation committees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or 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 responsibilities for the University.

(b) As a public service, the University may disclose without consent directory information of the following kinds:

- the name of a student who is or has been in attendance;
- dates of attendance;
- school or residential college affiliation;
- local and other addresses and local telephone number;
- electronic mail address;
- date and place of birth;
- major field of study;
- enrollment status;
- participation in University-sponsored extracurricular activities and sports;
- the height and weight of members of athletic teams;
- degrees, honors, and awards received;
- previous educational institution(s) attended;
- name and address of parent or guardian;
- picture and video;
- University person identifier (UPI).

(c) Upon request, the University will disclose education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

(4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the University to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC  20202-5901

The rights listed above go into effect on the first day of classes for the school or program in which the student has enrolled.