Northcentral University Annual Notification of FERPA Rights

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) afford eligible students certain rights with respect to their education records. An “eligible student” under FERPA is a student who is 18 years of age or older or who attends a postsecondary institution. These rights include:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day Northcentral University receives a written request for access. A student should submit to the registrar, a written request that identifies the record(s) the student wishes to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If it is not reasonable for a student to appear at the administrative offices arrangements will be made to share the records via another reasonable method. If the records are not maintained by the school official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.

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

3. A student who wishes to ask the school to amend a record should send a written request to the Office of the Registrar, clearly identifying the part of the record the student wants changed, and specify why it should be changed.

4. The Office of the Registrar shall notify the student of the decision within 15 days of the receipt of the request. If the Office of the Registrar denies the student request to correct education records, the student has the right to request an appeal. All appeal requests must be submitted to the Office of the Provost and must be postmarked or emailed within 15 days after the initial denial was sent. Any requests for appeal that are sent after the 15 day deadline has passed will be denied, and the matter shall be deemed closed.

5. Once the Office of the Provost receives the student’s appeal request he/she will render a written decision to the student within 15 days of the receipt of the request. The Office of the Provost’s decision is final and is not subject to further appeal.

Requests may be sent to:
Northcentral University
Office of the Registrar
8667 E Hartford Drive, Ste. 110
Scottsdale, Arizona 85255
6. The right to provide written consent before the university discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

The school 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 Northcentral University in an administrative, supervisory, academic, research, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit personnel and health staff); a person serving on the board of trustees; or a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the Northcentral University who performs an institutional service of function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent or a student volunteering to assist 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 Northcentral University.

7. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the Northcentral 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

FERPA permits the disclosure of PII from students’ education records, without consent of the student, if the disclosure meets certain conditions found in §99.31 of the FERPA regulations. Except for disclosures to school officials, disclosures related to some judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas, disclosures of directory information, and disclosures to the student, §99.32 of FERPA regulations requires the institution to record the disclosure. Eligible students have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures. A postsecondary institution may disclose PII from the education records without obtaining prior written consent of the student.

Northcentral University Policy on Disclosure of Educational Records

Generally, schools must have written permission from the eligible student in order to release any information from a student's education record. However, FERPA allows schools to disclose those records, without consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions (34 CFR § 99.31):

- To other school officials, including teachers, within Northcentral University whom the school has determined to have legitimate educational interests. This includes contractors, consultants, volunteers, or other parties to whom the school has outsourced institutional services or
functions, provided that the conditions listed in §99.31(a)(1)(i)(B)(1) - (a)(1)(i)(B)(2) are met. (§99.31(a)(1))

- To officials of another school where the student seeks or intends to enroll, or where the student is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes related to the student’s enrollment or transfer, subject to the requirements of §99.34. (§99.31(a)(2))

- To authorized representatives of the U. S. Comptroller General, the U. S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or State and local educational authorities, such as a State postsecondary authority that is responsible for supervising the university’s State-supported education programs. Disclosures under this provision may be made, subject to the requirements of §99.35, in connection with an audit or evaluation of Federal- or State-supported education programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with Federal legal requirements that relate to those programs. These entities may make further disclosures of PII to outside entities that are designated by them as their authorized representatives to conduct any audit, evaluation, or enforcement or compliance activity on their behalf. (§§99.31(a)(3) and 99.35)

- In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, if the information is necessary to determine eligibility for the aid, determine the amount of the aid, determine the conditions of the aid, or enforce the terms and conditions of the aid. (§99.31(a)(4))

- To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, the school, in order to: (a) develop, validate, or administer predictive tests; (b) administer student aid programs; or (c) improve instruction. (§99.31(a)(6))

- To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions. ((§99.31(a)(7))

- To parents of an eligible student if the student is a dependent for IRS tax purposes. (§99.31(a)(8))

- To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. (§99.31(a)(9))

- To appropriate officials in connection with a health or safety emergency, subject to §99.36. (§99.31(a)(10))

- Information the school has designated as “directory information” under §99.37. (§99.31(a)(11))

- To a victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, subject to the requirements of §99.39. The disclosure may only include the final results of the disciplinary proceeding with respect to that alleged crime or offense, regardless of the finding. (§99.31(a)(13))

- To the general public, the final results of a disciplinary proceeding, subject to the requirements of §99.39, if the school determines the student is an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence
or non-forcible sex offense and the student has committed a violation of the school’s rules or policies with respect to the allegation made against him or her. (§99.31(a)(14))

- To parents of a student regarding the student’s violation of any Federal, State, or local law, or of any rule or policy of the school, governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance if the school determines the student committed a disciplinary violation and the student is under the age of 21. (§99.31(a)(15))

Northcentral University has designated certain types of information as "Directory Information," which may be disclosed without a student’s consent.

**Directory Information**

Northcentral designates the following information as directory information. (Directory information is personally identifiable information which may be disclosed without the student’s consent):

- Student’s name
- Home address
- State or Country of residence
- Program(s) of study
- Dates of attendance
- Course Schedules
- Dates of admission
- Degrees, certificates and awards granted
- Award dates for degrees or certificates
- Enrollment status (i.e., enrolled/active, future enrolled student, reentry, leave of absence, withdrawn.)
- Undergraduate year (Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior)
- Honors or awards received
- Participation in activities officially recognized by NCU

**Non-Directory Information** – Non-directory information is considered any information that is not listed as directory information. This information may not be released without the prior written consent of the current or former applicant or student.