

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

POLICY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION

FOR

HOUSE BILL NO. 2696

By: Ford

POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

An Act relating to the Oklahoma Open Records Act; amending 51 O.S. 2021, Section 24A.16, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 86, O.S.L. 2024 (51 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 24A.16), which relates to educational records; requiring schools to release certain records to parents, guardians, or adult students; requiring records to be provided in a timely manner; mandating that certain record requests be provided for free; specifying that certain information cannot be omitted; providing examples of certain records; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 51 O.S. 2021, Section 24A.16, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 86, O.S.L. 2024 (51 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 24A.16), is amended to read as follows:

Section 24A.16. A. Except as set forth in subsection B of this section, public educational institutions and their employees may keep confidential:

1. Individual student records;

- 1 2. Teacher lesson plans, tests and other teaching material;
- 2 3. Personal communications concerning individual students; and
- 3 4. Any contract for use of a student athlete's name, image, or
- 4 likeness disclosed to a postsecondary institution pursuant to the
- 5 Student Athlete Name, Image and Likeness Rights Act.

6 B. If kept, statistical information not identified with a
7 particular student and directory information shall be open for
8 inspection and copying. Except as provided in subsection C of this
9 section, each educational institution may choose to designate
10 specific information which shall be classified as directory
11 information for students attending the educational institution. In
12 accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act,
13 Section 1232g of Title 20 of the United States Code and Part 99 of
14 Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, "directory information"
15 includes a student's name, address, telephone listing, date and
16 place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially
17 recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of
18 athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received,
19 and the most recent previous educational institution attended by the
20 student. Any educational agency or institution making public
21 directory information shall give public notice of the categories of
22 information which it has designated as directory information with
23 respect to each student attending the institution or agency and
24 shall allow a reasonable period of time after the notice has been

1 given for a parent or guardian to inform the institution or agency
2 that any or all of the information designated should not be released
3 without prior consent of the parent or guardian or the student if
4 the student is eighteen (18) years of age or older.

5 C. All educational agencies or institutions which are not the
6 primary custodians of student directory information of students
7 attending the educational institution, but which are allowed to
8 access the information for educational purposes, shall be prohibited
9 from releasing or selling any or all student directory information
10 unless disclosure is authorized by the Family Educational Rights and
11 Privacy Act, Section 1232g of Title 20 of the United States Code and
12 Part 99 of Title 34 of the Code of Federal Regulations, or Section
13 3-168 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

14 D. A public school district may release individual student
15 records for the current or previous school year to a school district
16 at which the student was previously enrolled for purposes of
17 evaluating educational programs and school effectiveness.

18 E. Notwithstanding any provisions of this section, public
19 educational institutions and their employees shall release all
20 requested student records to the student's parent or guardian, or to
21 the student themselves if he or she is eighteen (18) years of age or
22 older, if the records are requested by the parent, guardian, or the
23 adult student. Such records shall be provided in a timely manner in
24 accordance with the Oklahoma Open Records Act. An educational

1 institution shall provide such records free of charge, and shall not
2 redact or otherwise omit any information from the record, unless
3 including such information would violate the law. Records related
4 to a student include, but are not limited to, personal
5 communications concerning the student, any school staff or teacher
6 correspondence, individual student records, meeting notes, student
7 athlete contracts, proposed changes to an Individualized Education
8 Program or other program for students with disabilities, student
9 assessments, progress reports, and internal complaints and
10 recommendations regarding the student.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

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