

ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF STUDENTS RIGHTS

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

- The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the College receives a request for access. Students should submit to the registrar, dean or head of the academic department (or appropriate official) written requests that identify the record(s) they wish to inspect. The College official will make arrangements for access and notify the student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. If the records are not maintained by the College official to whom the request was submitted, that official shall advise the student of the correct official to whom the request should be addressed.
- The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the student believes is inaccurate or misleading. Students may ask the College to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. The student should write the College official responsible for the record, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it 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 or 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 disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is defined as a person employed by the College in an administrative, supervisory, academic, or support staff position (including law enforcement unit and health staff); a person or company with whom the College has contracted (such as an attorney, auditor, or collection agent); a person serving on the Board of Trustees; 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 responsibility.
- The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education Concerning alleged failures by the College to comply with the requirements of FERPA. Any student who believes that his/her rights under the Privacy Act have been violated by the College may notify and request assistance from the Dean of Students and may file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-4605.

Lawson State Community College offers equal opportunity in its employment, admissions, and educational programs and activities in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The 504 Coordinators for students are Mrs. Janine McCoy Jones (Birmingham Campus, Academic Success Center Room 220; (205) 929-6396) and Dr. Renay Herndon (Bessemer Campus, Building A, Room 183; (205) 929-3419).