

Student Freedoms, Rights and Responsibilities

Student Freedoms

In full agreement with and following the "Joint Statement of Rights and Freedoms of Students" (American Association of University Professors), Nichols College upholds its students' freedoms: to learn, to associate, to inquire, and to express.

Freedom to Learn At Nichols College, students are free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about matters of opinion, but they are responsible for maintaining the standards of academic performance established for each of their courses.

Freedom to Associate Students bring to Nichols College a variety of interests previously acquired, then develop new ones as members of the academic community. At Nichols, they are free to organize and join associations to promote the interests they have in common with others.

Freedom to Inquire Students and student organizations at Nichols College are free to examine and discuss all questions of interest to them.

Freedom to Express At Nichols College, students and student organizations are free to express opinions publicly and privately.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

FERPA affords students certain rights with respect to their education records. These rights are:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the College receives a request for access. If a student wants to review his or her record, the student should contact the College office that maintains the record to make appropriate arrangements.
2. 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. They 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 hearing procedures will be provided to the student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. 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; a student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a person 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.
Upon request, the College discloses education records without consent to officials of another school in which a student seeks to enroll.
4. 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. 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 20202-4605

Directory Information Nichols College designates the following items as Directory Information: student name; address; telephone number; email address; date and place of birth; major field of study; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; dates of attendance; degrees, honors and awards received; most recent previous school attended; and photograph, plus the parents' name and address. The College may disclose any of these items without prior written consent, unless notified in writing to the contrary by the second week after the start of a term.

Fees for Copies of Records The fee for copies is \$2.00 per page.