



Protecting Student Privacy While Using Virtual Learning, Educational Apps, and Advanced Technology

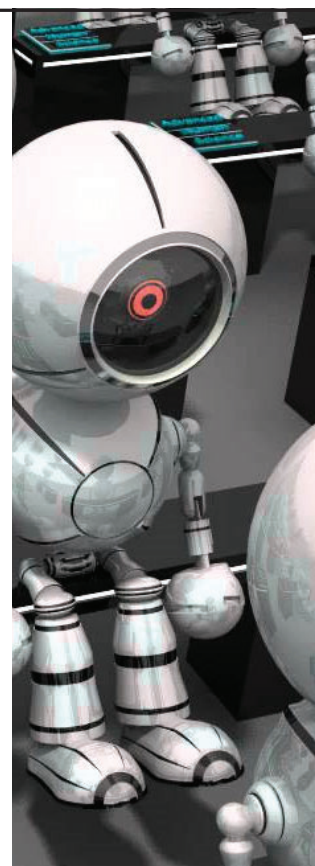
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United States Department of Education
Student Privacy Policy Office

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“Gone are the days when textbooks, photocopies, and filmstrips supplied the entirety of educational content to a classroom full of students. Today’s classrooms increasingly employ on-demand delivery of personalized content, virtual forums for interacting with other students and teachers, and a wealth of other interactive technologies that help foster and enhance the learning process.”



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Now and Then

1974

- File Cabinet
- Notebooks/textbooks
- Chalk Board
- VCR recording
- Paper Files
- Educational games/materials
- Classroom groups
- Typewriter

Today

- Cloud storage
- Laptops/Ipads
- Smart Board
- Face recognition surveillance
- SLDS
- Online Educational Apps
- Web-based collaboration sites
- Speech-to-text



FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

- Gives parents and “eligible students” the right to access and seek to amend education records;
- Protects personally identifiable information (PII) in education records from unauthorized disclosure; and
- Requires written consent before disclosing PII – unless an exception applies.



Confidentiality, Privacy, and FERPA

FERPA does not protect student privacy and the confidentiality of information in general. FERPA protects personally identifiable information (PII) from education records.



What are education records?

Education records are records that are –

- directly related to a student; and
- maintained by an educational agency or institution or by a party acting for the agency or institution.

34 CFR § 99.3

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