Institutional Research & Decision Support

Protection of Student Privacy for Reporting Purposes

Institutional Planning and Analysis collects and analyzes student data and distributes a wide variety of reports to internal and external constituencies. Specific aspects of student data are considered protected and subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, also known as FERPA, http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html) and other statutes concerning student privacy. Protected data include demographic characteristics such as gender, race/ethnicity, parental educational attainment and family income, as well as performance and outcome data such as admission to the University, test scores and pre-college academic performance, receipt of financial aid, grade point average, units completed, and time to degree.

The University of California considers tables containing aggregated data entries of fewer than 5 individuals as creating a situation that could lead to personal identification and, therefore, to potential disclosure of protected information. As part of our compliance with University of California policies and state or federal laws relating to the release of student data to a public audience, data tables published on our webpage are aggregated, when necessary, to protect student privacy.