



Leon's Law Guidance

1. What is Leon's Law?

Leon's Law, SL 2025-46/HB 378, is an act requiring the State Board of Community Colleges to direct community colleges to set forth a policy that provides education records of minor students to their parents or legal guardians, regardless of the student's consent, if the student is a dependent. The law applies to all minor students, Traditional, CCP/Dual Enrollment, Continuing Education, College and Career Readiness, Occupational Extension, Adult Education, and Basic Skills students. No matter the length or format of the course.

Leon's Law does not apply to adult students (over age 18), regardless of dependency status, disability status, or legal guardianship. Students over age 18 do not need to complete the Leon's Law acknowledgment form, even if they are tax dependents.

2. When must colleges begin complying with Leon's Law?

Leon's Law must be enacted during the 2025-2026 academic year. The State Board of Community Colleges will provide future directives to adopt policy in compliance with Leon's Law. While it may not be possible to fully implement the law before the start of the academic year, colleges must make a good-faith effort to apply the law as quickly as possible. One option for colleges is to start collecting completed forms from all new minor student applicants now and from current minor students who have not yet submitted a form during registration for the next term.

3. What are colleges required to do because of Leon's Law?

Every college should require minor students to complete a form, prior to registration, acknowledging the conditions of Leon's Law and their rights under FERPA. If a minor student refuses to sign the Leon's Law acknowledgment form, they are not eligible to take any college classes.

4. What is considered an education record under Leon's Law?

Leon's Law adopts the FERPA definition of education records. 34 C.F.R. § 99.3

Education records include, but are not limited to:

- Academic Information: grades, transcripts, attendance, student course schedules. Learning Management System (LMS) data, submitted assignments, email exchanges, etc.

- Financial Information: financial aid applications, tuition payments, and scholarships (not parents' taxes)
- Individual: library records, disability services records, advising records/notes, and student discipline file.

5. What happens if a minor student does not consent (or withdraws consent) to release their post-secondary education records?

Leon's Law mandates the disclosure of education records to parents even without minor student consent if the FERPA dependent student exception applies.

Minor students must acknowledge Leon's Law. If a minor student refuses to sign the acknowledgment form, they are not eligible to take college courses. Colleges cannot waive the Leon's Law acknowledgment to allow enrollment.

Minor students can choose not to waive FERPA rights, but they must acknowledge that colleges will still share the information as required by Leon's Law.

- Leon's Law acknowledgment form is required for college enrollment
- FERPA waiver/consent is helpful, but not required
- If the college has a FERPA waiver /consent form on file, the college does not need to apply the FERPA dependency exception.
- Having a FERPA waiver/consent form does not negate the need for a Leon's Law acknowledgment form.

6. Does Leon's Law mean parents can contact instructors directly?

No, parents should follow the college's established process to access their minor child's education record.

7. Does this give permission for parents to make decisions for their child?

No, Leon's Law gives parents the right to access their minor student's education records. It does not give parents the right to make academic decisions on the minor student's behalf.