



Oregon achieves . . . together!

Dr. Charlene WilliamsDirector of the Department of Education

April 30, 2025

Student Privacy Policy Office VIA EMAIL: SAOP@ed.gov U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Director:

Thank you for your March 28, 2025, request for information related to the Oregon Department of Education's (ODE) compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA). Specifically, you requested "documentation such as 'reports, information on policies and procedures, annual notifications, training materials or other information necessary' to provide assurance that the SEA and their respective LEAs are complying with the provisions of FERPA and PPRA, specifically with regard to the priority concerns previously discussed."

Please accept this correspondence as assurance that the ODE complies, and will continue to comply, with the provisions of FERPA and PPRA.

ODE promotes FERPA and PPRA compliance among Oregon's Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in a variety of ways. ODE supports training opportunities and provides data governance and privacy resources, including links to the United States Department of Education Student Privacy Policy Office (SPPO) websites ODE District Data Site: Student Data Privacy: Data Privacy & Security: State of Oregon and Oregon Department of Education: Student Records and Privacy: Students & Families: State of Oregon. In addition, ODE provides recurring internal and external training sessions on student privacy, ensuring that ODE staff and LEA representatives are consistently informed about FERPA, PPRA, and related requirements.

In addition, Oregon has codified FERPA compliance requirements through OAR 581-021-0260, which mandates that each educational agency or institution annually notify parents and eligible students of their rights under state and federal student privacy laws. This includes the ability to request to access, amend, and control the disclosure of education records, as well as clear procedures for exercising these rights, definitions regarding directory information, and effective communication for parents and students with disabilities or whose primary language is not English.

ODE informs LEAs that they must provide annual FERPA and PPRA notices by any means reasonably likely to inform parents and eligible students of their rights. Best practice guidance recommends that LEAs also post the FERPA and PPRA annual notifications of rights on each school's website. LEAs are directed to the SPPO webpage for additional templates and resources to assist with their notifications (SPPO Annual Notices).

In addition, ODE rules require LEAs to provide to the local community and ODE assurances of compliance with OAR 581-022-2260 Records and Reports, which implements FERPA requirements.

ODE generally directs LEAs and parents to the SPPO for additional support when concerns or alleged violations related to FERPA and PPRA arise.

ODE looks forward to collaborating to support FERPA compliance and safeguard student privacy.

Respectfully,

Dr. Charlene Williams

Director

Oregon Department of Education