As presidents of New Jersey’s state colleges and universities, we are committed to providing affordable, accessible opportunities for all our students to gain a college degree and pursue their lifelong goals.

We strongly protect students’ privacy under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which generally provides students with the right to have control over the disclosure of personally identifiable information from their education records. FERPA generally prohibits colleges and universities from disclosing personally identifiable information from education records without a student’s consent. We assure our students that before we can release personally identifiable information from their education records, a judicial order or a lawfully issued subpoena is often required.

To our students who have registered under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, or who have concerns about their immigration rights, we pledge to support you and help to provide advice. Students should be aware that colleges and universities are considered “sensitive locations” under federal immigration policy, and federal immigration officials will generally not take enforcement actions on campus.

Undocumented students should be assured that they cannot be deported immediately and have statutory and constitutional rights. Specifically, they have the right to a hearing and to have a judge review their case, and they can remain in the U.S. until a final decision is rendered, which in some cases can take years.

We encourage students to be familiar with their immigration rights. A helpful document has been prepared by the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund and can be found here:


We will continue to protect the safety of our students and all members of our campus communities, and to respect and enforce the privacy rights of all of our students.

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