

AAFCS Pre-Professional Assessment and Certification (Pre-PAC) Program FERPA Compliance Statement

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (as amended) is a Federal law that provides guidelines for educational institutions regarding protection and release of student education record information. FERPA allows disclosure of student information records, without parental consent, to the following parties or under the following conditions - 34 CFR § 99.31 (a):

- 1) School officials with legitimate educational interest;
- 2) Other schools to which a student is transferring;
- 3) Specified officials for audit or evaluation purposes;
- 4) Appropriate parties in connection with financial aid to a student;
- 5) State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law;
- 6) Organizations conducting certain studies for or on behalf of the school;
- 7) Accrediting organizations;
- 8) To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena.
- 9) Appropriate officials in cases of health and safety emergencies.

Disclosure of personally identifiable student information to the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) is allowable under 34 CFR § 99.31(a) (6) regarding organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, educational agencies or institutions. Further provisions of that section specify allowable activities to include improving instruction or developing, validating, or administering predictive tests.

Consistent with provisions of 34 CFR § 99.31 (a) (1) and (3), AAFCS limits its release of personal student information as follows:

- Password protected sites will be used to allow school personnel identified as the Test Site Administrator and Test Site Coordinator on the AAFCS Test Site Approval Agreement to access student identifiable assessment data.
- If authorized on the Test Site Approval Agreement, AAFCS will release student-level assessment data in response to a formal request from state education officials (departments of education), obtaining the data for schools in their jurisdiction in order to meet state and federal evaluation and program improvement requirements.

