

Dual Enrollment Consent Form

The following information is relevant for all parents and/or guardians of any Golden West College (GWC) student regardless of the student's age. This includes Dual Enrollment students who are concurrently enrolled in a high school and GWC. Upon admission, your student will officially be enrolled in an institution of higher education, and as a result, your student will be protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974.

What does it mean to be protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974?

When a student reaches the age of 18 or begins attending a post secondary institution, **regardless of age**, FERPA rights are transferred from the parent/guardian to the student. Students must act on their own behalf. Parents, guardians, relatives, or friends of GWC students are not permitted to enroll, drop, or add classes on behalf of the student. The same applies to requesting transcripts or grade verifications.

Below you will find answers to the most commonly asked questions received from parents/guardians.

As a parent/guardian, do I have access to my son or daughter's academic records?

Under Section 49061 of the Education Code, parents/guardians of community college students do not have a right to access their children's student records, regardless of whether the student is under the age of 18. In accordance with this regulation, students' college records will be released to parents/guardians only with the written consent of the student

I am a parent/guardian and I need help accessing, navigating, and/or processing transactions in my student's account. What do I do?

College officials may only assist the student with access to his/her account, which contains records covered under FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act). Students at GWC are expected to act on their own behalf. Parents, guardians, relatives, or friends of GWC students are not permitted to enroll, drop, or add classes on behalf of the student.

As a parent/guardian, can I contact my son's/daughter's instructor regarding course content, assignments and/or grading policy?

Your student is enrolled in a college course, and it is important to understand that instructors prefer to work directly with students, as opposed to the type of parent/guardian interactions you are accustomed to at the high school level. Under FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act), instructors are not required to discuss student performance or other student-related issues with parents/guardians.

Since the community college environment addresses the learning needs of adults, there are some concerns to consider when enrolling in courses at GWC such as: The possibility of controversial content of courses, the maturity level of minor students, and the ability to learn the content and perform at an equivalent level to the adults in the classroom.

Faculty establish a syllabus for each course, that includes the course content or objectives, assignments, a general guide to the pacing of the course and information about how grades will be determined. Once a student receives the syllabus for the course from the instructor and the student decides to remain enrolled in the course, the syllabus becomes the contract between the student and teacher.

As a parent/guardian, can I request a grade progress report from my son's/daughter's instructor?

Under FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) instructors are not required to discuss student performance or other student-related issues with parents/guardians, including progress or grades.

Who is responsible for registering for GWC courses?

It is the student's responsibility to log into his or her GWC student account to register for course(s). Please note, that submitting this consent form and the GWC admissions application **does not** register you in the course. It is the student's responsibility to register for the course(s) through their GWC student account in accordance with all college deadlines.

Do grades earned in a Dual Enrollment course become part of the student's permanent college record?

Grades earned at this institution are part of a student's permanent college record. These records may be transferred to four-year universities as official college work and will be considered for financial aid and NCAA eligibility purposes. Students are advised to take their performance in these college classes seriously.

I have read and understand the above information and agree to all the provisions set forth.

_____	_____	_____
Print Student Name	Student Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Print Parent/Guardian Name	Parent/Guardian Signature	Date