



CAMPUS COUNSEL

A legal blog written for administrators, HR professionals, in-house counsel, and deans at colleges and universities

COVID-19 Related Release of Student Records

BY REBECCA MACGREGOR • AUGUST 31, 2020

As a result of COVID-19, institutions may expect to receive more requests from parents for records concerning their student. The following are some of the statutes that may require release of such records.

- **Health Care Proxy** is a document signed by an adult child, authorizing a parent or other designated adult to make medical decisions for them, in the event they cannot make the decisions for themselves due to illness.
- **HIPAA Release** is a release signed by an adult child under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) which requires medical providers to have a patient's written authorization to release medical information to someone other than the patient, such as releasing an adult child's records to a parent.
- **Durable Power of Attorney** is a document signed by an adult child, authorizing a parent or other designated adult to make financial decisions for them, including accessing report cards, college invoices, bank accounts, and paying the adult child's bills.

If an adult child wishes to allow a parent to communicate with their doctors and their college, please contact [Rebecca MacGregor](#), partner in Bowditch's Estate, Financial & Tax Planning practice.