

# UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

April 22, 2015

Mohammad Ahmad  


Re: FOIA 15-254

Dear Mr. Admad:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request dated and received in my office on April 8, 2015, in which you requested:

“Documents Sought: All medical student case Minutes from 2013 - 2015 with the College Committee of Student Promotions with UIC, with their reason for meeting with the Committee, deliberation summary & included resolution, or decision. Please remove student names to maintain, which they probably already are, for confidentiality.”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 127 pages.

Portions of these documents have been redacted or withheld pursuant to the following section(s) of the Act:

- 140/7(1)(a) that exempts from disclosure “Information specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing adopted under federal or State law.” Under this exemption, information that is required to remain confidential under state law, including, without limitation, the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct were redacted from the responsive documents. Additionally, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. §1232g) protects the privacy of student education records and prohibits the release of any information from a student’s education record without the consent of the eligible student. Therefore, student names and any information that could lead to the re-identification of a student were redacted from the responsive records. Finally, pursuant to this exemption, patient information (or information that could lead to the identification of a patient) that is prohibited from being released under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) was redacted from the responsive documents.
- 140/7(1)(b) that exempts from disclosure “Private information, unless disclosure is required by another provision of this Act, a State or federal law or a court order.” This includes private medical information.
- 140/7(1)(c) that exempts from disclosure “Personal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which, if disclosed, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information.” This includes student, medical, and personal information.
- 140/7(1)(f) that exempts from disclosure “Preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda, and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are

Office for University Relations

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formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body." This includes communications containing deliberations, opinions, proposed actions and recommendations.

- 140/7(1)(j)(iii) that exempts from disclosure "information concerning a school or university's adjudication of student disciplinary cases, but only to the extent that disclosure would unavoidably reveal the identity of the student." Under this exemption, any information that could lead to the identity of a student was redacted from the records.
- 140/7(1)(m) that exempts from disclosure "Communications between a public body and an attorney or auditor representing the public body that would not be subject to discovery in litigation, and materials prepared or compiled by or for a public body in anticipation of a criminal, civil or administrative proceeding upon the request of an attorney advising the public body, . . ." Pursuant to this exemption, communications covered under the attorney client privilege and/or the work product doctrine that would not be subject to discovery were redacted or withheld from the responsive records.

Should you wish to inspect or receive a physical copy of these documents, please call Melanie Kuehn at the phone number below and she will provide you with all necessary details.

You have a right, under the law, to seek a review of this response by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) in the Office of the Attorney General. The PAC may be reached by phone at 217-782-1396, by email to [publicaccess@atg.state.il.us](mailto:publicaccess@atg.state.il.us), or by postal mail at the Public Access Bureau, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706. You also have the right to seek judicial review under section 11 of this Act.

If you have questions for our office, please contact 217-333-6400.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Hardy  
Executive Director  
and Chief Records Officer