



Solomon Amendment & Requests for Student Information¹

The Solomon Amendment is a federal law requiring higher education institutions that receive federal funding, such as Simmons University (“University”), to allow military recruiters access to certain information pertaining to students 17 years of age or older for purposes of military recruiting. The information an institution must make available (“Student Recruiting Information”) includes:

- Name;
- Address;
- Telephone listing;
- Age (or year of birth)
- Place of birth;
- Level of education (e.g. freshman, sophomore);
- Current academic major;
- Degrees received; and
- Most recent educational institution enrolled in by the student.

As the Department of Education has determined that the Solomon Amendment supersedes most elements of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), an institution is required to release this information regardless of whether the institution includes this information in its FERPA “directory information” list.

However, if a student has previously requested in writing to Simmons’ Office of the Registrar that their directory information be withheld under FERPA, such request will be honored with regard to the Solomon Amendment requirements and the University will not provide Student Recruiting Information for that student in response to any request by a military recruiter.

Release of Student Recruiting Information

Military recruiters must be personnel of the Department of Defense (DoD) with a current assignment or detail of recruiting activity. Recruiters must submit requests for Student Recruiting Information to the University’s Office of the Registrar in writing and on letterhead that clearly identifies the recruiter’s military recruiting organization.

¹ Acknowledgment to Indiana University and Penn State University, whose policies informed this one.

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Military recruiters may request Student Recruiting Information once each semester for each of the twelve eligible units within the five branches of the service:

- Army: Army, Army Reserve, Army National Guard
- Navy: Navy, Navy Reserve
- Marine Corps: Marine Corps, Marine Corps Reserve
- Air Force: Air Force, Air Force Reserve, Air Force National Guard
- Coast Guard: Coast Guard, Coast Guard Reserve

The University shall only release Student Recruiting Information relating to students who are or were registered for at least one academic credit hour at the University during the prior, current, or next term, including students who were enrolled during the prior term but who are no longer attending the University.

Information provided by the University shall be for military recruiting purposes only.