

SOLOMON AMENDMENT

The 1996 Solomon Amendment is the popular name of 10 U.S.C. §983, a United States federal law that allows the Secretary of Defense to deny federal grants (including research grants) to institutions of higher education if they prohibit or prevent ROTC or military recruitment on campus. In other words, it is a federal law that allows military recruiters to access some address, biographical and academic program information on students age 17 and older who have not filed any FERPA restrictions.

The Department of Education has determined the Solomon Amendment supersedes most elements of FERPA. An institution is therefore obligated to release data included in the list of “student recruiting information,” which may or may not match our FERPA directory information list.

Procedure for releasing information to military recruiter:

1. Under the Solomon amendment, information will be released for military recruitment purposes only. The military recruiters may request student recruitment information once each term for each of the 12 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
2. The request should be submitted via our data request system found on the Office of the Registrar website at www.reg.msu.edu. You will need to click on the “About” tab, then “Reports”, then “Data Requests”.
3. The request should specify the details of what you are seeking, including whether the information is needed for the future, current, or previous semester.

WHAT INFORMATION ARE MILITARY RECRUITERS ENTITLED TO UNDER THE SOLOMON AMENDMENT?

- Name
- Address
- Telephone
- Age and date of birth
- Place of birth (MSU does not collect)
- Level of education
- Academic major
- Degrees received
- Educational institution in which the student was most recently enrolled

Schools are not required to collect those elements. However, if some are not collected, a written explanation of that fact must be provided, and are noted above. Michigan State University’s “Notification of Student Rights and Notice of Directory Information” can be found on our website at <https://reg.msu.edu/ROInfo/Notices/PrivacyGuidelines.aspx> and outlines the directory information data elements determined at MSU.