



The Ranches Academy Student Data Collection Notice

The Ranches Academy collects student data for two main purposes: to comply with law and to improve students' educational experience. Student data enables the school to participate in education programs and to qualify for education funds. Student data also helps the school to better plan and personalize classroom instruction, increase student and teacher performance, and make informed decisions.

Student data collected by The Ranches Academy includes data defined as necessary student data, optional student data, and personally identifiable data (PII) in Utah Code 53E-9-301. The school collects data primarily through registration, but it also collects additional student data during the school year. The necessary, optional, and PII data collected by the school is listed in the Data Governance Plan, which is published on the school's website under Policies and Notices. The Ranches Academy does not collect student social security numbers or, except as required in Utah Code 78A-6-112, criminal records.

The Ranches Academy strives to not share PII unless the sharing is in accordance with Utah's student privacy and data protection laws and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Except as allowed by law, the school will not share PII externally without written consent. Some examples of where the school will not share PII externally without written consent include sharing such data with an authorized caseworker or other representative of the Department of Human Services, in response to a valid subpoena, or to persons or entities qualifying as school officials under FERPA.

The Ranches Academy takes many measures to protect student data. Student data stored digitally is stored on computers and systems that are secured, maintained, and supported by qualified IT service providers. Confidential PII in print form is stored in secure, locked areas of the school.

A student's rights under Utah Code 53E-9-301 through 310 include:

- Each student owns his or her PII. A student and his or her parents must be allowed to access such student data maintained by The Ranches Academy.
- A student's parent or guardian has the right to be notified by the school if a significant data breach occurs at the school.
- A prior student or parent of a prior student is entitled to have the prior student's data that is stored by the school expunged in accordance with the State Board of Education rules; and
- A student is entitled to receive a student data collection notice from the school prior to the school collecting necessary or optional student data of the student.

The collection, use, and sharing of student data has both benefits and risks. Parents and students should learn about these benefits and risks and make choices regarding student data accordingly.