

Protected Information: Further information for use by those completing an IRB proposal form.

Information protected under the Health Information Portability and Accountability Act:

Information, including demographic information**, that relates to:

- the individual's past, present or future physical or mental health or condition,
- the provision of health care to the individual, or
- the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to the individual,

(Obtained from the website of the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/summary/index.html> retrieved August 2013.)

Information protected under the Family Educational Rights Privacy Act:

Educational records, including, but not limited to:

- Transcripts
- Course grades
- Grade Point Averages for all or part of the individual's education
- Interim grade or other progress indicator in any course.
- Disciplinary actions in which the individual has been involved
- Honors or awards of an educational nature.
- Correspondence from others directly relating to the student's educational progress.
- Demographic data that would permit identification of educational progress information.**

**Just to clarify: Demographic information such as names and addresses is protected insofar as it permits identification of an individual's health or educational status or information (for example, if it identifies an individual as a hospital patient or in treatment, this is protected). It is this sort of information to which item 9 refers.

However, it is also our position that, once having assured a respondent of confidentiality, the researcher would not make available or publicize such information, even apart from the specifics of data collected.