

September 3, 2020

RE: Freedom of Information Act Request

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Herber:

This is to acknowledge that Parkland College District No. 505 is in receipt of your *Freedom of Information Act* (FOIA) request dated August 31, 2020 received via electronic mail. As the Vice President for Communications and External Affairs, I am responsible for processing requests for public information for the College, pursuant to *the Illinois Freedom of Information Act*, 5 ILCS 140/1 et seq. In your e-mail, you requested that the College make available the following records:

“Under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140, I would like to request the grade distribution by percent and/or letter grade for every class (for the last 6 academic years) at Parkland College. Please make sure, the information is FERPA compliant.

The variables that should be included are the following:

Course Subject, Course Number, Course Title, Term/Semester, A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D+, D, D-, F, W, Average Grade as a number, number of students taking this course.

Concerning the grades, if the college uses a different system, it should be reported as it is given to the students.”

Parkland College’s Response:

Your request was determined to be a commercial request and, thus, subject to the 21 working day response period as allowed by the statute.

Due to the broad nature of the request and expansive timeframe (grade distribution for every class for six academic years), this request is considered unduly burdensome to the institution as defined in in the Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(a).

As Vice President for Communications and External Affairs, I am responsible for granting and denying the requests for records under the *Freedom of Information Act*. Please be aware that this response to your request is pursuant to my understanding of your FOIA request. If I have misunderstood your request, please let me know as soon as possible so I may provide the correct information.

Finally, if you believe that this response constitutes a denial of your request, you have the right to have this response reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to:

Public Access Counselor
Office of the Attorney
General 500 South 2nd
Street Springfield, Illinois
62706
Fax: 217-782-1396
E-mail:
publicaccess@atg.state.il.us

You also have the right to seek judicial review of this response by filing a lawsuit in the State circuit court.
5 ILCS 140/11.

If you choose to file a Request for Review with the Public Access Counselor or State court, you will need to include a copy of this letter for the review.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to us.

Sincerely,



Stephanie L. Stuart
Vice President for Communications and External Affairs

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CC: FILE
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