



Campus Health HIPAA Policy

HIPAA is the **Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act** of 1996 [Public Law 104-191] (“Privacy Rule”). The major goal of HIPAA is to properly protect an individual’s “private health information” (PHI) while allowing the flow of essential health information needed to provide and promote high quality health care and to protect the public’s health and well-being. This proper sharing of health information can be done verbally, through writing, fax, or other forms of electronic transmission. For more information regarding complete HIPAA Regulations you may click [here](#) .

Basic Principle: A major purpose of the [HIPAA] Privacy Rule is to define and limit the circumstances in which an individual’s PHI may be used or disclosed by covered entities. A covered entity may not use or disclose PHI except either: (1) as the Privacy Rule permits or requires; or (2) as the individual who is the subject of the information (or the individual’s personal representative) authorizes in writing [45 CFR 164.502(a)].

Permitted Uses and Disclosures: A covered entity is permitted, but not required, to use and disclose PHI, without an individual’s authorization, for the following purposes or situations (1) To the Individual, (2) Treatment, Payment, and Health Care Operations, (3) Opportunity to Agree or Object, (4) Incident to an otherwise permitted use and disclosure, (5) Public Interest and Benefit Activities, and (6) Limited Data Set for the purposes of research, public health or health care operations [45 CFR 164.502(a)(1)]. Covered entities may rely on professional ethics and best judgments in deciding which of these permissive uses and disclosures to make. A covered entity must make reasonable efforts to use, disclose, and request only the minimum amount of protected health information needed to accomplish the intended purpose of the use, disclosure, or request [45 CFR 164.520 (a) and (b)].

Union College’s Campus Health Office acknowledges and observes the same HIPAA privacy regulations of “protected health information” (PHI) as any medical clinic/office along with the FERPA requirements associated with an educational institution. Medical information is only shared about any person in compliance with and as permitted by HIPAA. This HIPAA policy statement will be posted on the Campus Health webpage along with further detailed information regarding the HIPAA Privacy Act. A copy of this policy will be posted in the Campus Health Office for public viewing. Annually, a HIPAA reminder email regarding this policy will be sent to the student body by the Campus Health Office.

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