Ms. Lynn Marie Firehammer
Part C Coordinator
Early Steps
Children's Medical Services
Florida Department of Health
4052 Bald Cypress Way SE Bin # A06
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1707

MAR 7 2011

Dear Ms. Firehammer:

This is in response to your letter, dated February 14, 2011, regarding the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). 20 U.S.C. § 1232g; 34 CFR Part 99. FERPA is a Federal law that applies to educational agencies and institutions that receive funds from any program administered by the Secretary of Education. 34 CFR § 99.1. FERPA protects the privacy of "education records" on "students" that attend such educational agencies and institutions. *See* the definitions of these terms in 34 CFR § 99.3.

In your letter, you ask several questions that relate to records that are subject to Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). As I noted in my February 15th email to you, Part C has its own confidentiality provisions which will apply to your inquiry. Because this office administers FERPA and not Part C of IDEA, we have referred your letter to the following official:

Jennifer Sheehy
Director, Office of Policy and Planning
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services
U. S. Department of Education
(202) 245-7520
Jennifer.sheehy@ed.gov

I trust that this adequately explains the scope and limitations of FERPA as it pertains to your inquiry.

Sincerely,

Ellen Campbell
Acting Director
Family Policy Compliance Office