

## What is personal information?

### General

Under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (“**FOIP Act**”), **personal information means recorded information about an identifiable individual**. The FOIP Act gives these examples of personal information:

- Name
- Home or business address
- Home or business phone number
- Race, national or ethnic origin, colour or religious or political beliefs or associations
- Age
- Sex
- Marital or family status
- An identifying number, symbol or other particular assigned to the individual
- Fingerprints, other biometric information, blood type, genetic information or inheritable characteristics
- Information about the individual’s health and health care history, including information about a physical or mental disability
- Information about the individual’s educational, financial, employment or criminal history, including criminal records where a pardon has been given
- Anyone else’s opinions about the individual and the individual’s personal views or opinions, except if they are about someone else

### University Context

Here are some examples of the types of personal information which you may see and have access to if you are an employee of the University:

- Grades
- CCID
- Student number, employee number, social insurance number, or health care number
- Date of birth
- An employee’s application for employment, reference checks, salary, employee evaluation records, or personnel file
- Photos, videos or audio recordings which capture an individual’s image or voice
- Specific classes a student is taking
- Financial status
- Membership in a club
- The fact that an individual is using certain services, such as SSDS (Specialized Support and Disability Services) or the University Wellness Centre
- Discipline record
- Any interactions with University of Alberta Protective Services
- Research or survey results which do not include individuals’ names, but include other information about individuals such as Faculty and Department, age, postal code, opinions, etc. – if enough indirect identifiers about an individual are put together, then it can become reasonably likely that an individual could be identified from such information.