



Student Confidentiality

What is Personal Information

Curtin relies on the definitions of Personal and Sensitive Information given within the [Privacy Act 1988 \(Cth\) Interpretations](#).

At Curtin we acknowledge the ongoing collection of personal and sensitive information about our students and recommend the following Privacy Collection Statement be provided to students.

Curtin University collects and uses information about its students (Personal Information). This may include, but is not limited to your name, address, email addresses, phone number, IP Address, student identity, identification documents, next of kin, payment information, images (still or recorded), voice recordings, academic history, and student progress, as well as some sensitive personal information including medical, gender, sexuality, or disability where you choose to disclose this information to us. The University collects and uses this information during its interaction with you and to deliver teaching outcomes and other services relevant to your studies. The University may collect analytics about the use of its platforms and systems which may include your aggregated and anonymized data. The University may contact you to offer services or programs relevant to your interaction with the University and you will be able to request to unsubscribe from such communications at any time. Any personal or sensitive information you provide to us is securely retained within Curtin's approved business systems. Certain information essential for verification may be shared with third-party vendors in Australia or overseas as required to provide services and access to Curtin's teaching systems. The University is committed to compliance with the [Australian Privacy Principles](#) and does not share, disclose, or permit the use of your information for any other purpose unless directed by law. If you have any concerns about your Privacy, please email Privacy@curtin.edu.au for advice.

Understanding the Primary purpose of collection

Under Australian Privacy Principle 6 it states:

*6.1 If an APP entity holds personal information about an individual that was collected for a particular purpose (the **primary purpose**), the entity must not use or disclose the information for another purpose (the **secondary purpose**) unless:*

- (a) the individual has consented to the use or disclosure of the information; or*
- (b) subclause 6.2 or 6.3 applies in relation to the use or disclosure of the information.*

At Curtin our primary purpose is defined by the functions of the University as defined in the [Curtin University Act 1966](#).

Those functions which relate to collection are taken to inform our primary purposes of collection and these can be defined as:

- 1) To enable the application, enrolment, participation and graduation for any course of study offered by the university.*
- 2) To market and encourage enrolment or further enrolment or participation in courses offered by the university.*
- 3) To support the welfare and development of the student body (i.e., to offer intervention, support services, career and learning advice, tutoring or other relevant programs which support their current course of enrolment).*
- 4) To provide for award, recognition, or scholarship opportunities.*
- 5) To allow students to undertake research, invention and/or innovation as a part of the educational outcomes.*



What are the permitted secondary purposes?

Under the clauses of Australian Privacy Principle 6.2 the university will require consent from the individual (if practicable) or completion of a Privacy Impact Assessment to use or disclose the personal information of our students for any secondary purpose unless a valid exemption to this requirement exists within subclauses 6.2 or 6.3.

Secondary purposes which are not related to the primary purposes outlined above may not be permitted without consent.

In order to understand what is considered a permitted secondary purpose, it is necessary to understand the requirements of [sub-clause 6.2 and 6.3](#) as given within the Privacy Act (1988).

Generally, permitted secondary purposes would relate to

- 1) Purposes which can be shown are related or directly related to the primary purposes noted above **and** for which consent is given.*
- 2) For the purposes of the enforcement of law or any enforcement body.*
- 3) Under permitted general or permitted health circumstances.*

Additional information and useful links.

- [Privacy Act Interpretations](#)
- [Australian Privacy Principle \(APP\) 6](#)
- [Permitted General Situations](#)
- [Permitted Health Situations](#)
- [Australian Privacy Principles](#)

Need further assistance?

Please do not hesitate to contact us on 9266 1036, or at Privacy@curtin.edu.au, should you require additional assistance.

For information management advice of a general nature, you may wish to visit our website at: [information management and archives/privacy/](#) .