

URI Foundation & Alumni Engagement Data Privacy Statement

Introduction

The University of Rhode Island Foundation & Alumni Engagement understands the importance of protecting the privacy of personal information. As the entity responsible for the URI alumni database (Advance), we seek to enhance opportunities for URI alumni, parents, and friends to be engaged with the University, while also providing strong privacy protection for that data. This Privacy Statement explains what information we collect, and how that information is used and protected.

What personal information we collect

While specific information may vary for each individual or organization, general information the URI Foundation & Alumni Engagement may collect can be grouped in the following categories:

1. Biographic information – including home and business addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, and electronic contacts (e.g., LinkedIn, Facebook, etc.)
2. Demographic information – names, birth and death dates, photograph, and gender and ethnicity (if you provide it)
3. Student “directory” information– degrees, majors, affiliations and clubs, awards, activities, and sports participation
4. Employment information – company names, job titles, and industry information
5. Family information – spouse/partner's name, children's names, and familial relationships
6. Alumni information – event attendance, volunteer interests, organization affiliations, committee participation, awards and honors
7. Donor information – giving information regarding any donation which is made, including wealth assessment information and indicators of your interest in giving

How we collect personal information about you

The URI Foundation & Alumni Engagement collects information about you from a variety of sources, including: 1) information provided by you, 2) information shared with us by the University, and 3) information obtained from other sources.

For URI students and alumni, your biographic, demographic, and student “directory” information is transferred to the URI alumni database from URI’s student record system when you enroll at URI (in compliance with your FERPA restrictions); this information is updated during your time as a URI student, and upon your graduation from URI. Following graduation, however, a significant portion of the information we maintain in the alumni database is that which you have provided to us, either by updating your profile online, registering for an event, communicating with us, or donating to the University. We regularly update our records to ensure we have your most current contact information. When information is not available in our system, we may use targeted internet searches or third-party sources (e.g., Lexis Nexis, iWave, LinkedIn, etc.) to attempt to update our records.

How we use your personal information

We use your personal information for a number of purposes in support of the University of Rhode Island and its mission. Specifically, we use your personal information to:

1. Keep you updated with information about URI and alumni activities, and provide information about volunteer activities and invite you to URI events in your area
2. Conduct surveys, including alumni satisfaction, donation preferences and interests
3. Provide alumni services, including the online alumni directory
4. Facilitate online giving and event registration
5. Fundraise for particular URI initiatives, priorities, or programs
6. Conduct philanthropic preference research in order to understand alumni and supporters, to inform our fundraising strategy and target our communications
7. Perform administrative tasks and for internal record keeping purposes.
8. Create and analyze aggregated (fully anonymized) information about our students, alumni, donor and other supporters for statistical research purposes in support of our educational mission.

If you have concerns about any of these purposes, please contact us at foundation@uri.edu. We will always respect a request by you to modify your preferences for communication with the University, or to stop processing your personal information, subject to our legal obligations.

When we share your personal information

The URI Foundation & Alumni Engagement understands the importance of protecting the privacy of personal information, and have adopted strong policies regarding the release and use of alumni data. Alumni data will only be provided to support activities in support of the University of Rhode Island, or approved partners' programs designed to serve URI alumni.

To perform the functions listed above, at times, it may be necessary to share some of your personal information with volunteers, alumni affinity groups, and class representatives. Signed data releases are required. To further support and advance the activities of the University, we may also share your information with vetted third parties performing services under contract with us, including but not limited to D3, Inc., Stelter, AcademicWorks, and iModules. Alumni data will never be provided or sold to third parties for their independent use.

How your information is stored and secured

The University and URI Foundation & Alumni Engagement use virtual and physical security measures to protect all personal information from any outside threats. Only authenticated users with specific permissions granted by management and IT may access the data using our virtual private network. We use firewalls and regular monitoring to evaluate any attempts at accessing the systems without permission. We also conduct a cyber security audit every year to maintain our networks security with best practices. All the data stored on our network is backed up daily and kept safe away from the production network.

How long we keep your personal information

We consider our relationship with URI alumni, donors and friends to be lifelong. This means that we will maintain a record for you until such time as you tell us that you no longer wish us to keep in touch. You may also make changes to communication preferences online through email to foundation@uri.edu.

Rights for Individuals in the European Union

You have the right in certain circumstances to (1) access your personal information; (2) to correct or erase information; (3) restrict processing; and (4) object to communications, direct marketing, or profiling. To the extent applicable, the EU's General Data Protection Regulation provides further information about your rights. You also have the right to lodge complaints with your national or regional data protection authority. If you are inclined to exercise these rights, or have questions about our practices, we request an opportunity to discuss with you any concerns you may have. Please contact us via email at foundation@uri.edu.

(Note: If you are from an EU/EEA area, and you provide information directly to the URI & Alumni Engagement, you consent to the transfer of your personal information to the United States. The current laws and regulations of the United States may not provide the same level of protection as the data and privacy laws and regulations of the EEA. You are under no obligation to provide any personal data to us, other than personal data provided in connection with your status as a URI student.)

Additional Information

The URI Foundation & Alumni Engagement comply with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations. To assure that our works merits the respect and trust of the general public, we also adhere to and make public our Donor Bill of Rights. We may change this privacy statement from time to time. If we make any significant changes in the way we treat your personal information we will make this clear on our URI Foundation & Alumni Engagement website or by contacting you directly. The controller for your personal information is the URI Foundation & Alumni Engagement. We can be contacted at foundation@uri.edu.

This policy was last updated in April 2020.