

MARRIED/ PREGNANT/ PARENTING STUDENTS

Married, pregnant and parenting students in the district shall have the same educational and extra curricular opportunities as all students. Participation in special programs or schools shall be voluntary.

For school-related purposes, legally married students under the age of 18 are emancipated minors and have all the rights and privileges of a student who is 18, even if the marriage has been dissolved. (Family Code 7002)

The Governing Board believes that pregnancy and parenting should not be a barrier to education or a reason for dropping out of school. Rather than ending the teenager's need for education, pregnancy and parenting increase the need to cope with adult responsibilities and to prepare for an economically self-sufficient future.

School placement and instructional strategies for participating pregnant or parenting students shall be determined on a case-by-case basis and shall be appropriate to the student's individual needs and learning styles. The student may continue attending school in the regular classroom or continuation education setting, may attend a separate program established for pregnant students, may enroll in Adult Education with adult status regardless of age, or may pursue a home instruction or independent study program. When selecting the program to be followed, the student shall be encouraged to consult with her spouse or parent/guardian, her physician, and appropriate district medical and educational advisors. The classroom setting shall be the preferred instructional strategy unless an alternative is necessary to meet the needs of the individual student and/or child. (Education Code 54745)

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

(cf. 6183 - Home/Hospital Instruction)

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

Pregnant or parenting students shall qualify for nutrition program supplements as provided under Education Code 49559(b). All applications and eligibility records concerning these supplements shall be confidential. (Education Code 49558)

Legal Reference:**EDUCATION CODE**

2551.3 Determination of state aid for pregnant minors program

8900-8901 Pregnant minors program

48220 Compulsory education requirement

48410(c) Persons exempted from continuation classes

49553 Nutrition supplements for pregnant/lactating parents

49558 Confidentiality of applications and records

49559 Reimbursement rates; qualification of pregnant or lactating students for programs

51220.5 Parenting skills and education

51745 Independent study

52610.5 Enrollment of pregnant and parenting students in adult education

MARRIED/ PREGNANT/ PARENTING STUDENTS (continued)

Legal Reference: (continued)

FAMILY CODE

7002 Description of emancipated minor

7050 Purposes for which emancipated minor considered an adult

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

124175-124200 Adolescent and Family Life Act

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

11820 et seq. Pregnant minor program

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1681 - 1688 Title IX, Education Act Amendments

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, TITLE 34

106.40 Marital or parental status

Management Resources:

CDE PUBLICATIONS

Pregnant and Parenting Students: Cal-Learn Update/County Teen Birth Data Update, 9/12/1994

Pregnant and Parenting Students: A Report to the Legislature, April 1996

SBE POLICIES

Policy statement on adolescent pregnancy and parenting, July 9, 1993

WEB SITES

CDE: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

MARRIED/ PREGNANT/ PARENTING STUDENTS

The Superintendent or designee may grant students a leave of absence due to pregnancy or childbirth for as long as it is deemed medically necessary. At the conclusion of the leave, the student shall be reinstated to the status she held when the leave began. (34 CFR 106.40)

(cf. 5112.3 - Student Leave of Absence)

Pregnant and parenting students also may request exemption from attendance because of a physical or mental condition or because of personal services that must be rendered to a dependent. (Education Code 48410)

(cf. 5112.1 - Exemptions from Attendance)

A male or female student who is an expectant parent, the custodial parent, or the noncustodial parent taking an active role in the care and supervision of the child, shall be eligible to enroll in the district's program for pregnant or parenting students under any of the following conditions: (Education Code 54747)

1. The student is age 18 years of age or younger and has not earned a high school diploma or its equivalent.
2. The student is age 19, has not earned a high school diploma or its equivalent, and has been continuously enrolled in the program for pregnant/parenting students since before his/her 19th birthday. Such a student may be enrolled in the program for one additional semester.
3. The student is below age 22 and has an active Individualized Education Plan.

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

Students shall be enrolled in programs for pregnant and parenting students on an open-entry and open-exit basis. (Education Code 54745)

The Superintendent or designee shall complete an intake procedure regarding each student and child upon entry into the program, and periodically thereafter as necessary, to determine appropriate levels and types of services to be provided. (Education Code 54746)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide staff development and community outreach in order to establish a positive learning environment and school policies supportive of pregnant and parenting students' academic achievement and to promote the healthy development of their children. (Education Code 54745)

MARRIED/ PREGNANT/ PARENTING STUDENTS (continued)

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

The Superintendent or designee shall cooperate with the County Superintendent of Schools to develop and annually update the county service coordination plan for providing educational and related support services to pregnant and parenting teens and their children. He/she also shall participate in data collection and evaluation of the program. (Education Code 54745)

(cf. 6190 - Evaluation of the Instructional Program)
(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)