

MARRIED/PREGNANT/PARENTING STUDENTS

The Governing Board recognizes that early marriage, pregnancy, or parenting may disrupt a student's education and increase the chance of a student dropping out of school. The Board, therefore, desires to provide instruction and services designed to assist in pregnancy prevention. The Board also desires to support male and female expectant and parenting students to attain strong academic and parenting skills and to promote the healthy development of their children.

- (cf. 5147 – Dropout Prevention)*
- (cf. 5149 - At-Risk Students)*
- (cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)*
- (cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)*
- (cf. 6146.11 - Alternative Credits toward Graduation)*
- (cf. 6146.2 - Certificate of Proficiency/High School Equivalency)*

Married, expectant, and parenting students shall have the same educational and extracurricular opportunities as all students. Participation in special programs or schools shall be voluntary.

- (cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)*
- (cf. 5127 - Graduation Ceremonies and Activities)*
- (cf. 6145 - Extracurricular and Co-curricular Activities)*

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

Expectant and Parenting Students

The Board is committed to providing to expectant and parenting students and their children a comprehensive, continuous, community-linked program that reflects the cultural and linguistic diversity of the community.

The Superintendent or designee shall collaborate with the County Superintendent of Schools and other community agencies and organizations to ensure that appropriate educational and related support services are available to meet the needs of expectant and parenting students their children.

- (cf. 1020 - Youth Services)*
- (cf. 1400 - Relations between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)*

Expectant and parenting students retain the right to participate in any comprehensive school or educational alternative programs. School placement and instructional strategies for participating students shall be based on the needs and learning styles of individual students. 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)

MARRIED/PREGNANT/PARENTING STUDENTS (continued)

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)
(cf. 6183 - Home and Hospital Instruction)
(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)
(cf. 6200 - Adult Education)

In addition to providing a quality education program for expectant and parenting students, the district's program shall provide parenting education and life skills instruction, special school nutrition supplements for pregnant and lactating students, and a child care and development program on or near the school site for the children of enrolled students. The district's program may provide other support services authorized by Education Code 54746 as necessary to meet the needs of students and their children. (Education Code 54745)

(cf. 3550 - Food Service/Child Nutrition Program)
(cf. 5141.6 - Student Health and Social Services)
(cf. 5148 - Child Care and Development)
(cf. 5148.1 - Child Care Services for Parenting Students)
(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

Pregnancy Prevention Program

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that age-appropriate, culturally sensitive, and community-sensitive instruction and services are available to assist in the prevention of pregnancy among minors. The district's program shall be based on strategies that have proven effective in delaying the onset of sexual activity and reducing the incidence of pregnancy among school-age youth. Instruction shall be consistent with the district's family life/sex education curriculum.

(cf. 5141.25 - Availability of Condoms)
(cf. 6142.1 - Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Instruction)
(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)
(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

Legal Reference: (see next page)

MARRIED/PREGNANT/PARENTING STUDENTS (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

2551.3 Determination of state aid for pregnant minors program
17293 School facilities for pregnant/parenting teen programs
48220 Compulsory education requirement
48410 Persons exempted from continuation classes
49553 Nutrition supplements for pregnant/lactating students
49558 Confidentiality of applications and records for free or reduced price meals
51220.5 Parenting skills and education
51745 Independent study
52610.5 Enrollment of pregnant and parenting students in adult education
54740-54749.5 California School Age Families Education Program (Cal-SAFE)

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

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: 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>

California Department of Health Services: <http://www.dhs.ca.gov>

Department of Social Services: <http://www.dss.ca.gov>