

NOTIFICATION TO FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS REGARDING PREGNANT STUDENTS AND STUDENT PARENTS

Under Texas S.B. 459 which took effect September 1, 2023, institutions of higher education who provide early registration for any student populations shall provide early registration for parenting students in the same manner. Parenting student is defined as a student enrolled in an institution of higher education who is the parent or legal guardian of a child under 18 years of age. Undergraduate and graduate students may self-certify [here](#).

The University's designated Liaison Officer for current or incoming students who are the parent or guardian of a child younger than 18 years of age is the Title IX Coordinator (titleix@tamusa.edu, 210-784-2061). Resources for pregnant and parenting students can be found [here](#).

Texas A&M University-San Antonio does not require a pregnant or parenting student, solely because of the student's status as a pregnant or parenting student or due to issues related to the student's pregnancy or parenting, to (1) take a leave of absences or withdraw from the student's degree or certificate program, (2) limit the student's studies, (3) participate in an alternative program, (4) change the student's major, degree, or certificate program, or (5) refrain from joining or case participating in any course, activity, or program at the institution.

A&M-San Antonio Texas provides reasonable accommodations to pregnant students, including accommodations that (1) would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition, or (2) are related to the health and safety of the student and the student's unborn child, such as allowing the student to maintain a safe distance from substances, areas, and activities known to be hazardous to pregnant women or unborn children. The University will also, for reasons related to a student's pregnancy, childbirth, or any resulting medical status or condition, (1) excuse the student's absence, (2) allow the student to make up missed assignments or assessments, (3) allow the student additional time to complete assignments in the same manner as the institution allows for a student with a temporary medical condition, and (4) provide the student with access to instructional materials and video recordings of lectures for classes for which the student has an excused absence to the same extent that instructional materials and video recordings of lectures are made available to any other student with an excused absence. Further, the University allows a pregnant or parenting student to (1) take a leave of absence and, if in good academic standing at the time the student takes a leave of absence, (2) return to the student's degree or certificate program in good standing without being required to reapply for admission.

Questions related to pregnant and parenting students should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator (titleix@tamusa.edu, 210-784-2061).

Texas Education Code 51.982. Protections for Pregnant and Parenting Students

d. An institution of higher education shall, for reasons related to a student's pregnancy, childbirth, or any resulting medical status or condition:

- 1) Excuse the student's absence;
- 2) Allow the student to make up missed assignments or assessments;
- 3) Allow the student additional time to complete assignments in the same manner as the institution allows for a student with a temporary medical condition; and

4) Provide the student with access to instructional materials and video recordings of lectures for classes for which the student has an excused absence under this section to the same extent that instructional materials and video recordings of lectures are made available to any other student with an excused absence.

e. An institution of higher education shall allow a pregnant or parenting student to:

- 1) take a leave of absence; and
- 2) If in good academic standing at the time the student takes a leave of absence, return to the student's degree or certificate program in good academic standing without being required to reapply for admission.

f. Each institution of higher education shall adopt a policy for students on pregnancy and parenting discrimination. The policy must:

- 1) include the contact information for the employee or office of the institution that is the designated point of contact for a student requesting each protection or accommodation under this section;
- 2) be posted in an easily accessible, straightforward format on the institution's Internet website; and
- 3) be made available annually to faculty, staff, and employees of the institution.

For further questions on [Texas S.B. 459](#), [Texas H.B. 1361](#), or [Texas S.B. 412](#), please contact Family Engagement at Family@tamusa.edu (210) 784-1452 tamusa.edu/family-engagement/.