



**Board Policy: Married / Parenting / Pregnant Students**

**Reference: BP 5146  
Approved: June 13, 2017**

Married, pregnant and parenting students shall have the same educational opportunities as all students.

For school-related purposes, 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.

The CNCA Board believes that pregnancy and parenting should not be a barrier to education or a reason for dropping out of school. Pregnancy and parenting increase the need to cope with adult responsibilities and to prepare for an economically self-sufficient future.

CNCA does not deny any student any educational program or activity solely on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery therefrom and treats these in the same manner and under the same policies as any other temporary disability.

The instructional program for pregnant students shall be determined on a case by case basis appropriate to the student's individual needs. The student may continue attending school in the regular classroom setting, may attend a separate program established for pregnant students, or may pursue a home instruction, independent study or alternative education program. CNCA shall coordinate scheduling so that students may attend their regular classes for part of the day and specialized classes for the remainder. When selecting the program, the student shall be encouraged to consult with her spouse or parent/guardian, her physician, and appropriate CNCA medical and educational advisors. Pregnant/parenting students who voluntarily participate in alternate programs will receive educational programs, activities and courses equal to the regular program.

After the birth of her baby, the student may:

1. Return to regular school program.
2. Remain in an alternative program.
3. Attend a continuation high school or adult education classes.
4. Request exemption from attendance because of personal services that must be rendered to a dependent.



## **Pregnant Minors Program**

The Board recognizes that pregnant minors may derive great benefit from a specialized program that supplements academic courses with practical instruction geared to their specific needs. In addition to providing psychological support, this program may include instruction in health, prenatal and postnatal care, preparation for childbirth and parenting, home economics, consumer education, child development, money management, and employable skills.

The CNCA shall refer appropriate students to programs for pregnant minors which will:

1. Identify program goals, student needs, and community resources.
2. Provide an academic program which gives equal educational opportunities to pregnant minors.
3. Provide student referral, placement, and transition procedures for students who have not completed graduation requirements at the end of their program eligibility.

The Chief Executive Officer or designee shall appoint a program plan committee to review individual participation in the program.

Written notice shall be provided to each pregnant minor's parent/guardian, describing the program plan for the enrolled student. If the student is married or legally emancipated, this notice is not required.

Any student is eligible for participation in the program if she has not graduated from high school and has a written pregnancy verification from a licensed physician. The CEO or designee must obtain a doctor's statement that the student is receiving prenatal care prior to placement in the program.

Wherever possible, program staff shall work closely with the pregnant student's partner and/or parents/guardians and shall collaborate with local public and private agencies to expand the student's learning opportunities and support.

The school will provide reasonable accommodations to lactating students on the campus to express breast milk, breast-feed and infant child, or address other needs related to breastfeeding.

- 1) Reasonable accommodations under this section include, but are not limited to, all of the following:



- a) Access to a private and secure room, other than a restroom, to express breast milk or breastfeed an infant child.
  - b) Permission to bring onto a school campus a breast pump and any other equipment used to express breast milk.
  - c) Access to a power source for a breast pump or any other equipment used to express breast milk.
  - d) Access to a place to store expressed breast milk safely.
- 2) The school provides a lactating pupil on a school campus with a reasonable amount of time to accommodate her need to express breast milk or breast-feed an infant child.
  - 3) The school ensures that a pupil does not incur an academic penalty as a result of her use, during the school day, of the reasonable accommodations specified in this section, and pupils are provided the opportunity to make up any work missed due to such use.