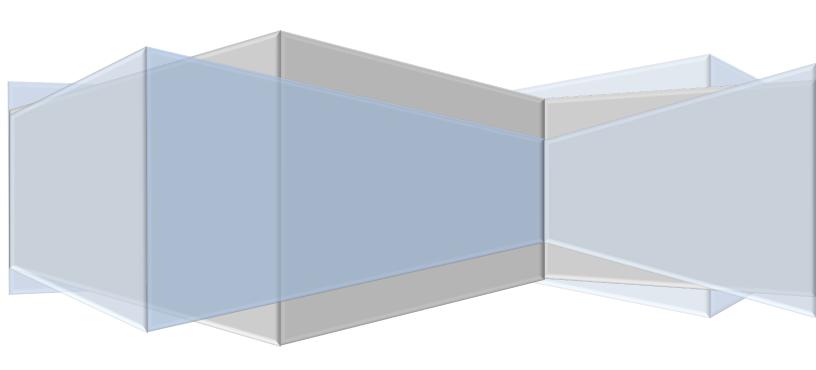


"Student outcomes don't change until adult behaviors change. This starts with me." Lone Star Governance

# **Operating Guidelines Manual**

Teen Parent Related Services (TPRS) PO Box 3912 \* Odessa, Texas 79762 Rose Valderaz, Coordinator Office 432-456-8552 Fax 432-456-1008









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# "Making a Difference"

# **Overview**

Welcome! We are excited to service our teens parents. Our district and teen parent staff are dedicated to the success of all students. When servicing our pregnant teens, and engaging our teen **fathers or** teen parents we will do all we can to ensure the support needed to reach graduation and beyond.

#### **TPRS Mission Statement**

Through individualized education, advocacy, and support services, Teen Parent Related Services (TPRS) will support and empower teen parents to be confident, academically successful, and responsible individuals.

#### TPRS Vision Statement (The Proven Road to Success)

Teen Parent Related Services (TPRS) will provide an exemplary program that supports, empowers, and prepares teen parents for the future.

#### **Organizational Chart**

Rose Valderaz - Coordinator Debra Rios - Administrative Assistant Kimberly Bryer - Homebound Teacher Hortencia Del Bosque - Homebound Teacher

# Servicing: Odessa High School and Feeder Schools

Erica Dangerfield – Teen Reach Advocacy Counselor (TRAC) Marisela Gonzalez – Specialist Connie Flores - Caseworker

#### Servicing: Permian High School and Feeder Schools

Valerie Grado – Teen Reach Advocacy Counselor (TRAC) Michelle Dominguez – Specialist Ronda Mitchell – Caseworker

#### Children Center at Zavala Elementary

Sylvia Duran – Supervisor

Please check out our Teen Parent Website for additional information: https://www.ectorcountyisd.org/Domain/189







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#### **Core Values**

- Climate of Accountability
- Holistic Education

#### We believe that....

- To be fully prepared for the future and post-secondary education, teen parents need individualized education, intense support services, and other academically enriched opportunities.
- With caring support and resources, teen parents can be effective and successful adults who positively contribute to their community.
- Accountability begins with strong leadership, continuous professional development, and a climate for employee excellence.

# **Support Services**

The following support services are provided by the TPRS staff. We advocate for all participating students (**female/male**) by collaborating with campus principals, counselors, teachers, other professional staff and community.

#### **Academic/Counselor Services**

- Schedule modifications (Acceleration/Credit Recovery)
- Assessment Monitoring (STARR)
- Graduation and Goal Setting
- Homebound Coordination
- Attendance and Grade Monitoring/Credit Appeal

#### Life Skills

- Pregnancy/Parenting Information
- Child Development Information
- Self Esteem/Self-Empowerment Information
- Social Emotional Development and Counseling

#### **Post High School Planning and Career**

- College Readiness/TSI/SAT/ACT/College Enrollment
- FASFA/TASFA, Scholarships
- Interest Inventory
- Collaborate with Campus College Counselor/TPRS Counselor/College Bound Support
- College Campus Trips/Virtual Tour

# **Community Outreach**

- Community Agency and Health Information Services
- Transportation / Childcare Services to Parents

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- Workshops addressing Teen Parent Concerns and Issues
- Case Management and Service Coordination
- Home visits

#### **Support Services Continue**

- Online learning, Home access, Computer, Internet (WIFI) check out
- Tutoring
- Mentors
- Brief ARD ---ASAP upon SPED PRS Identification
- End of Each Cycle Audit Balancing
- Work with our teen parents from initial referral to graduation
- Weekly meetings-student reviews
- Staff Development
- Community Partnerships and ECISD Partnerships
- General School Supplies

#### **Enrollment Procedures**

Any school-age student may be enrolled in the PRS program if she is eligible for ADA and in the prenatal or postpartum period of pregnancy.

The student's eligibility to receive PRS is verified by either of the following:

- a campus official or
- a medical practitioner<sup>1</sup> licensed<sup>i</sup> to practice in the United States.

The date the student begins receiving PRS is considered the date of enrollment in the PRS program. (SAAH)

It is important to identify pregnant students as soon as possible so that the intake process can begin and the student can begin receiving the PRS services. Identification at each campus can be made with school nurse, teacher, counselor, principal, parent, or self-referral. Once student identified, contact Rose Valderaz, TPRS Coordinator at 432-456-8552 to begin the process.

#### **Eligibility for Services**

Any school-age student who is in the prenatal or postpartum period of pregnancy is eligible for **services** under the PRS program. This includes students who are pregnant and/or deliver a live, aborted, or stillborn baby; suffer a miscarriage or death of a newborn; or place a baby up for adoption.

# **Pregnancy Related Services (PRS)**

Pregnancy Related Services (PRS) are support services, including Compensatory Education Home Instruction (CEHI) that a student receives during the pregnancy prenatal and postpartum periods to help her adjust academically, mentally, physically and stay in school. These services are delivered to a student when —

- the student is pregnant and attending classes on a district campus,
- a valid medical necessity for confinement during the pregnancy prenatal period prevents the student from attending classes on a district campus, or
- a valid medical necessity for confinement during the pregnancy postpartum period prevents the student from attending classes on a district campus.

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A district receives 2.41 PRS weighted funding while Pregnancy Related Services are being provided to the student. Documentation by campus officials, licensed medical practitioners, and certified teachers is required to claim PRS eligible days present for funding (SAAH Section 9).

#### Withdrawal Procedures

A student is no longer eligible for PRS and must be withdrawn from the program on the date one of the following occurs:

- the student no longer receives services through the PRS program;
- the student returns early from postpartum confinement to attend her regular classes on a school campus;
- the student reaches the first day of the seventh week after her pregnancy ended and a licensed medical practitioner has not authorized an extension of postpartum confinement;
- if the student's postpartum confinement was extended, the student reaches the first day of the eleventh week after her pregnancy ended; or
- if the student has been allowed to use the break-in-service option, the student reaches the first day of the school week that follows 10 weeks of postpartum confinement.
- PRS Folder closed for auditing purposes

#### **Compensatory Education Homebound (CEHI)**

**CEHI** is the mandatory component districts offer in a PRS program. CEHI provides academic services to the student at home or hospital bedside when a valid medical necessity for confinement during the pregnancy prenatal or postpartum periods prevents the student from attending classes on a district campus. CEHI must consist of face-to-face instruction by a certified teacher of the district. Substitute teachers can be used to provide CEHI; however, the individual selected as the substitute must be a certified teacher. The CEHI teacher must maintain a log to document the actual amount of prenatal and postpartum CEHI each student receives.

When students are provided CEHI, your district will receive the 2.41 PRS weighted funding. Students who do not come to school and who do not receive CEHI and/or special education homebound services **must** be counted absent. (*SAAH Section 9*)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The term "medical practitioner" includes a physician, an advanced nurse practitioner, and a midwife licensed under the Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 203.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Throughout Section 9, "licensed" means licensed to practice in the United States. You can access the Texas Medical Board's searchable database of licensed physicians at OnLineVerif/Phys SearchVerif.asp.

# Three Types of Homebound Services (CEHI)

#### **CEHI during Prenatal Confinement**

If your district serves students with CEHI during a prenatal confinement, it will receive the 2.41 PRS weighted funding. Though providing support services to a student who is receiving CEHI during prenatal confinement is optional, these services may be necessary for the academic, mental, or physical health of the student to ensure that she does not drop out of school.

Documentation for each event of prenatal confinement must be obtained from a licensed medical practitioner to verify that a medical necessity for confinement has been determined to exist.

There is no limit to the length of time or number of times CEHI may be provided to a student during the prenatal period. The length of time and number of times the student is provided CEHI services is dependent on the licensed medical practitioner's documentation. (SAAH 9)

#### **CEHI during Postpartum Confinement**

If your district offers a PRS program and an eligible student has not refused program services, your district must provide the student with postpartum CEHI either until the student chooses to return to school or until the end of the sixth week from the beginning date, whichever comes first. The student is not required to provide a medical note indicating a need for confinement to be eligible for or receive postpartum CEHI through the sixth week from the beginning date. Provision of CEHI during postpartum confinement may be extended for 4 additional weeks' subject to the documentation requirement. However, under no circumstances will a student remain eligible for PRS funding after the tenth week of postpartum confinement ends. (SAAH 9)

#### **CEHI during Extended Confinement**

Eligibility for CEHI during postpartum confinement may be extended for an additional 4 consecutive weeks if there are complications with the student's or infant's health. Eligibility for CEHI during extended postpartum confinement starts on the first day of the seventh week after the beginning date and ends on the first day of the eleventh week after the beginning date. (SAAH 9)

#### **CEHI during Break-in-Service Confinement**

Your district may allow a student to divide up to 10 weeks of postpartum confinement CEHI into two periods in instances in which the infant remains hospitalized after delivery. This option is known as break-in-service CEHI. It allows the student to receive CEHI during an initial period of postpartum confinement while recovering from delivery (student recovery period), returns to school until the baby is released from the hospital, and then receive CEHI during the remainder of the eligible postpartum confinement time while caring for the baby (baby recovery period). (If the baby is hospitalized again, the student may receive an additional period of CEHI when the baby is released if the student has not already received 10 weeks of postpartum confinement CEHI.) (SAAH 9)

A student who requires break-in-service confinement remains eligible to receive CEHI until she has been confined for a total of 10 weeks or the school year ends, whichever comes first. For a baby's recovery period, the student is not required to provide a medical note indicating a need for extended postpartum

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confinement to be eligible for or receive break-in-service CEHI beyond the sixth week of postpartum confinement. (SAAH 9)

# **Attendance for Traditional and Non-Tradition Students (OFSDP Attendance)**

#### 9.10 Confinement and Earning Eligible Days Present

A student who receives CEHI while on prenatal or postpartum confinement earns eligible days present based on the number of hours she is served at home or hospital bedside by a certified teacher. Use the following chart located on page 9 to determine a student's eligible days present. Information on the PRS waiver can be found at https://tea.texas.gov/StateWaivers/. For a teacher other than a special education or bilingual/ESL teacher, the requirement that a teacher is certified does not apply to an open-enrollment charter school unless the school's charter requires that courses be taught by certified teachers. (SAAH 9)

One exception to the prohibition on changing the type of record used during a reporting period would be for a student's initial enrollment in the OFSDP. Another would be for an OFSDP student who begins receiving PRS CEHI services in the middle of a six-week reporting period. The student's attendance would be reported with a 42400 record (according to the CEHI funding chart in 9.10 Confinement and Earning Eligible Days Present) and with an ADA eligibility code of 1 at the time the student began receiving CEHI services, even if that date occurred within the six-week reporting period. Once the student stopped receiving CEHI services and returned to school to participate in the OFSDP, the student's attendance would be reported with a 42401 record and with an ADA eligibility code of 7, even if the transition occurred in the middle of a six-week reporting period. (SAAH 11.6.3)

#### **Student Detail Reports**

Student Detail Reports must contain a PRS indicator code for all students who are being served in the PRS program and who are eligible for state funding. (SAAH 9)

Attendance Balancing – Caseworker balance every six weeks with the campus attendance clerk at each campus. Report reviewed with the supervisor before submitting to campus principal.

#### Absences

During the prenatal period, a student is absent if she does not come to school, or if the student is receiving CEHI if CEHI is not provided. During the postpartum period, a student is absent if CEHI is not provided.

A student may be recorded absent on the effective date of a program change (date of enrollment in or withdrawal from the PRS program). However, as with all other students, PRS students cannot earn eligible days present on days they are absent. (SAAH 9)

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# Attendance Coding During Homebound (CEHI Confinement) - Regular Ed Students

PRS Confinement Service Requirements

Amount of Time Provided CEHI per Week (Week Is Sunday Through Saturday)	PRS Eligible Days Present Earned per Week
0 hours	0 days present PRS
1 hour	1 day present PRS
2 hours	2 days present PRS
3 hours	3 days present PRS
4 hours	4 days present PRS, 0 days absent (if the week is a 4- day week) 5 days present PRS, 0 days absent (if the week is a 5- day week)
More than 4 hours	4 days present PRS, 0 days absent (if the week is a 4- day week) 5 days present PRS, 0 days absent (if the week is a 5- day week)

# Attendance Coding During Homebound (CEHI Confinement) - Special Ed Students SPED Student PRS Confinement Service Requirements

Amount of Time S (Week Is Sunday T SPED Homebound		SPED and PRS Eligible Days Present Earned per Week
1 hour	1 hour	1 day present SPED and PRS
2 hours	2 hours	2 days present SPED and PRS
3 hours	2 hours	3 days present SPED and PRS
4 hours	2 hours	4 days present SPED and PRS (if the week is a 4-day week) 5 days present SPED and PRS (if the week is a 5-day week)
More than 4 hours	2 hours	4 days present SPED and PRS (if the week is a 4-day week) 5 days present SPED and PRS (if the week is a 5-day week)

Eligible days present are determined each week, and a week is from Sunday through Saturday. Service hours may not be accumulated and carried forward from one week to the next, nor can service hours be applied to a previous week.

A student who is provided SPED and PRS during confinement retains the same ADA eligibility code she had before receiving the services, regardless of how many hours the student will be provided the services.

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If a student is not provided special education homebound services during a week, the student must be counted absent for the entire week even if she was provided PRS during the week. If a student is provided special education homebound services during a week but not PRS, the student may be counted present according to the requirements of the chart in, but the student is not eligible to generate PRS weighted funding for the week.

#### Brief ARD request upon identification of new students. Deliberation page requested.

#### **TPRS Form Legend**

1 TEA PRS Checklist Form

2 Check List Form

10 Proof of Pregnancy

15 Attendance Verification of PRS/CEHI

20 Prenatal/Extended CEHI Request Form

30A New Arrival (POP on file)

30B New Arrival (No POP on file)

40 Back to School Release

50A CEHI Regular Ed Visitation Log

50B CEHI SPED Visitation Log

60 Assessment /Tutoring Release Form

80 Student Information

90 Student Visitation Calendar & Teacher Log

95A PRE-CEHI Visit Form

95B CEHI Transitional Form (Specialists)

105 CEHI Counselor Visit Checklist (Specialists)

Weekly Homebound Review List (Homebound Teacher)

Pending Proof of Pregnancy (POP) List (Maintained Weekly)

#### **Acronyms**

POP-Proof of Pregnancy

CEHI- Compensatory Educational Homebound Instruction

PRE-CEHI Meeting- Student meeting conducted prior to going into homebound instruction

CEHI Transitional Meeting- Student meeting conducted prior to returning to campus

HB - Homebound

SPED- Special Education

ARD- Annual Review Meeting for SPED students

BTSR- Back to School Release

MC- Miscarriage

SAAH 9 – Texas Education Agency Student Attendance Accountability Handbook Section 9

Other –Support Student with Special Circumstance (SO-Support Only)

DOB - Date of Birth

EDD – Estimate Due Date

OFSDP – Optional/Flexible School Day Program (OFSDP)

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# Campus Flowchart for PRS and CEHI General Operating Guidelines

#### SCENARIO 1

**Referred student** contacts TPRS Specialist or TRAC Counselor sees pregnant girl, initiate intake



#### 1A. Specialist

- Obtain student POP Form#10, and Coordinator faxes request to students' doctor
- Logs contact with student on TEAMS, Prints WST1218 Student Profile to review special program information
- Male Referral on intake follow up with services for the teen father

#### SCENARIO 2

Form #10 or POP completed & signed by licensed physician

#### 2A. Caseworker

- Reviews Form #10 POP for completeness
- Begins yellow folder
- Completes Form #1 Checklist
- Enters PRS entry date in ITCCS screen WST1230 from copy of form #10 received
- Begins monitoring student attendance weekly

#### 2B. Specialist

- Enters receipt of form on Microsoft Teams.
- Notifies: Campus Staff/Nurse/Coordinator
- Begin monitoring student attendance and academics
- Schedules all Pre-CEHI Meetings 4 weeks before EDD date with parent and student.
- For Pre-CEHI Completes form 95A
- Sends a calendar invite to Team and Principal

#### 2C. TRAC (Counselor)

- Verifies all special programs if student has a Special Ed Status notifies Special Ed Dept. so that ARD is scheduled - mandatory,
- Makes initial request for ARD, complete form 100
- Obtain ARD doc & communicate to staff and distribute to team
- Begins monitoring student attendance/academics/gradebook
- Reviews schedule, transcript, and testing needs.

#### 2D. Coordinator

- Adds student to the Estimated Delivery Date (EDD) Calendar
- Begins monitoring student attendance and academics
- Begins organizing weekly student review of CEHI with Homebound teachers and Team
- Add Father name to EDD calendar

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# **Compensatory Education Homebound (CEHI)**

#### **SCENARIO 3 CEHI** Instruction

Student notifies TPRS Specialist or TRAC Counselor of need for CEHI instruction

Follow these steps for all:

- CEHI Scenarios
- Pre CEHI
- Post CEHI
- Extended CEHI

Prenatal and Extended CEHI must have a doctor's note with begin and end date

If student is SPED, Counselor request ARD for *each* period of CEHI

#### 3A. TPRS Specialist

- Notifies Coordinator to fax form #20 to the doctor to confirm the need CEHI (For Pre CEHI and Extended CEHI), For CEHI to be approved for Pre CEHI or Extended (must have a valid ICD10 code)
- Once CEHI is approved, Notify TPRS Homebound Teachers so that CEHI services can be coordinated.
- Emails student's principal, attendance, teachers, and TPRS staff.
- Request work from teachers for initial request.
- Monitors incoming student work and outgoing student work using gradebook.
- > Continue to monitor the students attendance and grades.
- At the end or all CEHI Schedule <u>Transition meeting</u> Complete form 95B
- Send Team Calendar invite
- Send an email the updates from transition meeting and let teachers know the student will return.

# 3D. TPRS Homebound Teachers and SPED Homebound Teacher if applicable)

- During CEHI homebound collects all work from homebound teachers and delivers assignments to students.
- > Returns completed work the campus documents on form.
- Coordinates plan for home visits with student,
- Review & follow special pop accommodations and modifications
- Completes CEHI Teacher Visitation Log Form (#50A) weekly,
- Scans logs to TPRS Team each Monday
- Verifies grades in txGradebook
- > Review grades and missing work
- Attends transition meeting at the end of homebound.
- Gives a Weekly list to team
- Verifies transportation/Childcare/ breastfeeding

NOTE: SE students will have 2 logs in folder SE #50B and PRS #50A

#### 3B. Coordinator

- Scans or faxes Form #20 to the licensed physician to have them sign the paperwork stating the ICD10 code.
- Once approved sends notice to team to begin the CEHI services.
- If student is served by SPED, notifies Special Ed Dept. so that SPED Homebound Services can be coordinated, Note: PRS needs ARD to serve SE student

#### 3C. Case Worker

- Reviews Form (#20) for completeness,
- Enter receipt of form on Microsoft Teams
- Notifies Attendance Clerk for attendance code of "H" for homebound. And record keeping of logs
- Enters CEHI date in ITCCS WST1230
- Collects homebound Visitation Log Weekly and verifies information with HB Teacher.
- Turns in the homebound log to the attendance clerk.
- Reconciles weekly with attendance clerk.

#### 3E. TPRS Counselor

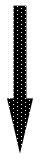
If student is served by SE, notifies
Special Ed Dept. and TPRS team.

(Note: PRS needs ARD to serve SE student and complete Form 100)

- Deliberation page in yellow folder
- Schedules 2<sup>nd</sup> week CEHI Counselor home visit check list (Form#105)

#### 3F. Attendance Clerk

- Enters appropriate attendance code in ITCCS as reflected on log
- Reconciles with Case workermakes corrections as needed.



#### **Released From CEHI**

#### SCENARIO 4

Student returns from CEHI Repeat steps for Pre CEHI, Post, and Extended CEHI

Campus must already have received the BTSR Form 40 with doctors' signature, *BEFORE* the student returns to school

Note: a student returning to take the EOC/STAAR testing must return to CEHI period and follow procedures once testing is complete. Must have form 60 completed and signed by doctor.

#### **4A Coordinator**

- Sends Back to School Release form #40 to Dr. to Rose Valderaz
- Emails the TPRS staff the release date.

#### 4C. TPRS Specialist

- Reviews Form 40 for completeness,
- Enters receipt of form on Microsoft Teams
- Notifies the home campus teachers and campus staff of return.
- Visits with the student upon return to access student needs and determine attendance appeal.

4E. TRAC (Counselor)/Homebound Teacher

Continue to monitor the student's academics and grades.

#### 4B. Case Worker

- Withdraws student from CEHI services in ITCCS
- Notifies Attendance Clerk
- Starts to close yellow folder

#### 4D. Attendance Clerk

- > Ensures that homebound attendance code is no longer used
- Reconciles with Caseworker at the end of each cycle using form #15



#### **Post-Partum**

#### **SCENARIO 5**

The student notifies TPRS staff baby has been born; miscarried or adopted

The first contact completes the New Arrival form #30A or #30B and emails, copy to team/upload in TEAMS

Postpartum CEHI (weeks 1-6) begins

#### 5A. TPRS Specialist

- Reviews/Completes the New Arrival Form (#30A) or (#30B),
- Enters birth date, MC or adoption on Microsoft Teams,
- Notifies TPRS /Campus Staff of HB Services
- Begins the homebound processfollowed on (3A Specialist Above)

NOTE: The collection of documentation for postpartum CEHI is optional (see section 9.10.4 of SAAH); ECISD has elected to not collect this documentation.

#### 5B. TRAC (Counselor)

- Reviews/Completes the New Arrival Form #30A or #30B,
- Follow scenario 3E Instruction

#### 5C. Casework

- Reviews/Completes the New Arrival Form #30A or #30B,
- > Follow scenario 3C Instruction

5C. TPRS Homebound Teacher and SPED Homebound Teacher if applicable Follow Scenario

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# **Closed Folders**

#### SCENARIO 6

Closing the TPRS Student Audit (Yellow Folder)

#### 6A. TPRS Specialist

- Reviews all forms for completeness,
- Completes all fields in excel spreadsheet in the PEIMS tab.
- Notifies Case Worker
- Finalizes the last documentation the close out of the student yellow folder
  - Address the students make up time for attendance with student

#### 6C. TRAC Counselor

- Reviews Grades and check for missing grades
- Follow up with teacher of record for missing cycle grades.
- Pursue grades until updated in Ascender.

#### 6B. Case Worker

- Withdraws student from PRS services in ITCCS as reflected on the last visit indicated on form #50A or #50B.
- Prints out the PRS Screen WST1230 and student attendance.
- Reviews all TPRS documents with the Specialist against checklist form #1.
- Files the PRS "yellow" folder in the back of the student's cumulative folder, after review by IS/Coordinator
- Highlight closed folder in yellow on PRS active TEAMS
- Campus PRS audit checks (Bi-annually).

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<sup>\*</sup>TPRS Specialist/TRAC (Counselor)/Caseworker-audit individual folders before closing

<sup>\*</sup>For TPRS programmatic concerns contact Ms. Valderaz at 456-8552

<sup>\*</sup>For campus-based concerns at PHS contact Mr. Ontiveroz

<sup>\*</sup>For campus-based concerns at OHS contact Mr. Moreno

#### **Know Your Rights:**

#### Pregnant or Parenting? Title IX Protects You From Discrimination At School

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 ("Title IX"), 20 U.S.C. §1681 et seq., is a Federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex—including pregnancy and parental status—in educational programs and activities.

All public and private schools, school districts, colleges, and universities receiving any Federal funds ("schools") must comply with Title IX.\*

#### Here are some things you should know about your rights:

#### Classes and School Activities - your school MUST:

- Allow you to continue participating in classes and extracurricular activities even though you are
  pregnant. This means that you can still participate in advanced placement and honors classes,
  school clubs, sports, honor societies, student leadership opportunities, and other activities, like
  after-school programs operated at the school.
  - Allow you to choose whether you want to participate in special instructional programs or
    classes for pregnant students. You can participate if you want to, but your school cannot
    pressure you to do so. The alternative program must provide the same types of academic,
    extracurricular and enrichment opportunities as your school's regular program.
- Allow you to participate in classes and extracurricular activities even though you are pregnant and
  not require you to submit a doctor's note unless your school requires a doctor's note from all
  students who have a physical or emotional condition requiring treatment by a doctor. Your school
  also must not require a doctor's note from you after you have been hospitalized for childbirth
  unless it requires a doctor's note from all students who have been hospitalized for other conditions.
- Provide you with reasonable <u>adjustments</u>, like a larger desk, elevator access, or allowing you to make frequent trips to the restroom, when necessary because of your pregnancy.

#### Excused Absences and Medical Leave - your school MUST:

- o <u>Excuse absences</u> due to pregnancy or childbirth for as long as your doctor says it is necessary.
- Allow you to return to the same academic and extracurricular status as before your medical leave began, which should include giving you the opportunity to <u>make up any work missed while you</u> <u>were out</u>.
- Ensure that teachers understand the Title IX requirements related to excused absences/medical leave. Your teacher may not refuse to allow you to submit work after a deadline you missed because of pregnancy or childbirth. If your teacher's grading is based in part on class participation or attendance and you missed class because of pregnancy or childbirth, you should be allowed to make up the participation or attendance credits you didn't have the chance to earn.
- Provide pregnant students with the <u>same special services</u> it provides to students with temporary medical conditions. This includes <u>homebound instruction/at-home tutoring/independent study</u>.

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<sup>\*</sup> A school that is controlled by a religious organization is exempt from Title IX when the law's requirements would conflict with the organization's religious tenets.

#### Harassment - your school MUST:

Protect you from harassment based on sex, including harassment because of pregnancy or related
conditions. Comments that could constitute prohibited harassment include making sexual
comments or jokes about your pregnancy, calling you sexually charged names, spreading rumors
about your sexual activity, and making sexual propositions or gestures, if the comments are
sufficiently serious that it interferes with your ability to benefit from or participate in your school's
program.

#### Policies and Procedures - your school MUST:

- Have and distribute a <u>policy against sex discrimination</u>. It is recommended that the policy make clear that prohibited sex discrimination covers discrimination against pregnant and parenting students.
- Adopt and publish grievance procedures for students to file complaints of sex discrimination, including discrimination related to pregnancy or parental status.
- Identify at least one employee in the school or school district to carry out its responsibilities under Title IX (sometimes called a "<u>Title IX Coordinator</u>") and notify all students and employees of the name, title, and contact information of its Title IX Coordinator. These responsibilities include overseeing complaints of discrimination against pregnant and parenting students.

#### Helpful Tips for Pregnant and Parenting Students:

- Ask your school for help—meet with your school's Title IX Coordinator or counselor regarding what your school can do to support you in continuing your education.
- Keep notes about your pregnancy-related absences, any instances of harassment and your interactions with school officials about your pregnancy, and <u>immediately report problems</u> to your school's Title IX Coordinator, counselor, or other staff.
- If you feel your school is discriminating against you because you are pregnant or parenting you may file a complaint:
  - Using your school's internal Title IX grievance procedures.
  - With the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), even if you have not filed a complaint with your school. If you file with OCR, make sure you do so within 180 days of when the discrimination took place.
  - In court, even if you have not filed a complaint with your school or with OCR.
- Contact OCR if you have any questions. We are here to help make sure all students, <u>including</u> <u>pregnant and parenting students</u>, have equal educational opportunities!

If you want to learn more about your rights, or if you believe that a school district, college, or university is violating Federal law, you may contact the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, at (800) 421-3481 or <a href="mailto:ocr@ed.gov">ocr@ed.gov</a>. If you wish to fill out a complaint form online, you may do so at: <a href="http://www.ed.gov/ocr/complaintintro.html">http://www.ed.gov/ocr/complaintintro.html</a>.

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As of July 31, 2024, pursuant to Federal court orders, the Department is currently enjoined from enforcing the 2024 Final Rule in the states of Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Jowa, Kansas, Kennecky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebrasias, North Dakora, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakora, Temessee, Frasas, Urba, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wyoming, the Department is also currently enjoined from enforcing the 2024 Final Rule at the schools on the list located at https://www2.ed.gov/shout/offices/listoridocs/list-of-schools-enjoined-from-2024-19-frage\_Ept\_Pet Court order, this list of schools may be supplemented in the future. The Final Rule and this resource do not currently apply in those states and schools. Pending further court orders, the Department's Title IX Regulations, as amended in 2020 (2020 Title IX Final Rule) remain in effect in those states and schools.

# Brief Overview of Key Provisions of the Department of Education's 2024 Title IX Final Rule\*

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Provision	2024 Final Kule
Definitions	Adds and revises definitions, including complaint, complainant, respondent, and party; confidential employee;
(§ 106.2)	disciplinary sanctions; pregnancy or related conditions; relevant; remedies; retaliation and peer retaliation; sex-based harassment; and supportive measures.
Effect of other	Clarifies that a recipient must comply with Title IX and the final regulations in the event of a conflict with State law or
requirements (§ 106.6)	FERPA, and that Title IX and the final regulations do not override any legal right of a parent, guardian, or other authorized legal representative to act on behalf of a complainant, respondent, or other person.
Administrative	Clarifies requirements for designating a Title IX Coordinator, adopting and publishing nondiscrimination policies and
requirements	grievance procedures, and providing a notice of nondiscrimination. (§ 106.8(a)–(c)). Clarifies which individuals a
(§ 106.8)	recipient must train on Title IX and provides requirements for such training, which vary based on an individual's role. (\$ 106.8(d)). Requires a recipient to protect the rights of parties who are students with disabilities. (\$ 106.8(e)).
	Clarifies which records a recipient must maintain for at least seven years. (§ 106.8(f)).
Scope of sex	Clarifies that sex discrimination includes discrimination based on sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or
discrimination	related conditions, sexual orientation, and gender identity. (§ 106.10). Also clarifies that sex-based harassment includes
$(\S\S\ 106.2,\ 106.10)$	harassment on these bases and further clarifies when sex-based harassment creates a hostile environment. (§ 106.2).
Application of	Clarifies that Title IX applies to all sex discrimination occurring under a recipient's education program or activity in
Title IX	the United States and provides additional detail about what conduct is covered. Also clarifies that a recipient has an
(§ 106.11)	obligation to address a sex-based hostile environment under its education program or activity even when some conduct
	alleged to be contributing to the hostile environment occurred outside the recipient's education program or activity or
Sex senaration	Clarifies that a recipient must not senarate or treat any nerson differently based on sex in a manner that subjects them to
and different	more than de minimis harm, except in the limited specified circumstances permitted by Title IX. Recognizes that
treatment	preventing a person from participating in a recipient's education program or activity consistent with their gender
(& 106.31(a)(2))	identity subjects that person to more than de minimis harm.
Parental, family,	Prohibits a recipient from treating students, employees, or applicants differently based on sex in connection with
or marital status;	parental, family, or marital status. (§§ 106.21(c), 106.40, 106.57). Prohibits discrimination against students, employees,
pregnancy or	or applicants, based on pregnancy or related conditions, and requires recipients to take actions to prevent sex
related	discrimination and ensure equal access to the recipient's education program or activity, such as by providing
conditions	reasonable modifications for students, reasonable break time for lactation for employees, and lactation space for
(§§ 106.21(c),	students and employees. (§§ 106.40(b)(3) and 106.57(e)). Prohibits schools from requiring documentation from
106.40, 106.57)	students to obtain reasonable modifications or other actions unless such documentation is necessary and reasonable.

\* The final regulations make amendments to 34 C.F.R. 106.1 et seq. For a more complete explanation of the final regulations, please see the Department's 2024 Notice of Final Rule on Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance, which is available here.

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