

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of the Senior Deputy Superintendent, Educational Services

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SUBJECT:	BULLETIN NO. Z-65 (REV.) PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS	Local Superintendents Local District School Support Administrators
DATE:	October 15, 2001	
DIVISION:	Student Health and Human Services	
APPROVED:	MARIA REZA, Assistant Superintendent	

For further information, please call Linda Ward Russell, Program Coordinator, Pregnant and Parenting Teen Programs, at (213) 625-4200 or Deanne Neiman, Director, Educational Equity Compliance, at (213) 229-5900.

This revision replaces Bulletin No. 28, (Rev.), dated June 16, 1987, titled “ Policies and Programs Relating to Pregnant Students,” Office of the Associate Superintendent, School Operations. The content and procedures have been revised to reflect changes in policy and updated information.

I. BACKGROUND

The District recognizes and protects the educational rights of pregnant and parenting students as it does the rights of all other students. This protection is in accordance with both Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Federal law) and with the California Education Code. The protection of the educational rights of teenage parents and pregnant students is especially important as the California Legislature has concluded that early pregnancy is the greatest single cause of school dropout for female students. In addition, teenage fathers are also significantly less likely to complete high school than their non-parent peers. Both research and experience demonstrate that by protecting their educational rights, providing high quality educational options, and assuring access to the needed support services, schools can help to assure the educational success of both teen parents and their children.

Pregnant and parenting students, regardless of their marital status have the same right as any other students to attend any District school or program and to do so in an environment free of discrimination, harassment, or verbal abuse.

This bulletin has been substantially revised to better comply with the mandates of Title IX and the California Education Code. It is the goal of the Los Angeles Unified School District to provide pregnant and parenting students with the educational options, resource information, and access to support services they need to achieve academic success.

II.

TITLE IX PROTECTIONS AGAINST DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

- A. Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination based on Sex in programs or activities that receive Federal financial assistance.
1. Discrimination on the basis of sex is prohibited in the treatment of students, the provision of aid, benefits, or services, the application of rules of conduct and disciplinary measures or other sanctions, and the determination and assessment of fees, including residency requirements of attendance, admission, or tuition (Section 106.31).
 2. Discriminatory courses and programs are prohibited. Thus, schools may not require a student to take a course or participate in a program on the basis of her or his sex (Section 106.34).
 3. Discriminatory counseling and/or the use of counseling or appraisal materials that treat students differently based on their sex are prohibited (Section 106.36).
 4. Human sexuality classes may still be conducted separately for male and female students in elementary and secondary schools (Section 106.34).
- B. Title IX regulations also prohibit schools from discriminating on the basis of pregnancy or related conditions as well as on the basis of marital or parental status (Section 106.40). For example, a school that excludes female students because of their marital or parental status but permits male students who are married or parenting to continue their studies is in clear violation of Title IX.

The following guidelines apply to all public schools and to schools that receive any Federal funding:

1. Schools shall not discriminate against any student or exclude any student from full participation in any educational program activity including any class or extracurricular activity on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, recovery therefrom or related conditions.
2. Participation in a special school or program reserved or designed for pregnant or parenting students must be **completely voluntary** on the part of the student.
3. A school may not ask a pregnant or parenting student to obtain a medical certification of their ability to physically and/or emotionally participate in

regular school programs **unless** the same certification is required of all other students with physical or emotional conditions requiring a physician's care.

4. Schools must treat pregnancy and related conditions as they treat any other medical conditions. Health plans, medical benefits, related services and accommodations to facilitate full participation are to be provided to pregnant students in the same manner as these services are provided to students with any other "temporary disabilities."
5. A pregnant student may be granted a leave of absence for as long as is deemed medically necessary and at the conclusion of the leave must be allowed to return with the same status she held when the leave began. The student must be allowed the opportunity to make up any school work missed due to excused absences.

C. Title IX law may serve as a vehicle to challenge rules that appear neutral in impact but have the effect of disproportionately harming students of one gender (Section 106.40 of Title IX Regulations). For example, a rule prohibiting parents from bringing children under the age of six onto school property may violate Title IX if it was created to prevent female students from bringing their babies to school **or** if it has a disproportionate affect on female rather than male students.

D. Title IX regulations prohibit discrimination in programs and activities not directly run by the school or district but considered part of the school's educational program. Therefore, a student cannot be excluded from these programs on any basis prohibited in Title IX. Such programs include, but are not limited to, student exchange programs, foreign study and travel, affiliated programs, or courses offered in conjunction with other academic or non-academic institutions.

III. AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION ABOUT TITLE IX PROTECTIONS FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS

To protect the educational rights and full participation of pregnant students and teenage parents, a clear and understandable summary of Title IX and its impact on school policies should be made available to students, parents, and school staff in parent/student handbooks, in informational materials available from the Pregnant /Parenting Teen Programs Office and on the LAUSD Web Site at www.lausd.k12.ca.us/lausd/offices/psa and look for the Pregnant/Parenting Teen Programs section.

IV. GUIDELINES: PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS

A. Confidentiality Protections and Notification of Pregnancy

Pregnant and parenting students have the right to be treated with respect by both District staff and other students and to have their health and personal information kept confidential (Education Code 72621).

1. The decision whether or not to inform her parents, teachers, or other students about her pregnancy is left solely up to the pregnant student. School staff shall not discuss a student's private information or communications with others without the permission of the student.
2. Private health and personal information shall not be used against students when they are seeking recommendations or being considered for educational, scholarship, or employment opportunities.
3. In cases where a student's parent or guardian is unaware of the pregnancy, a student may be encouraged to involve their parent or guardian but may not be coerced or forced to do so.
4. No notification of any party by school staff or administrators can proceed without the student's consent, with the exception of notification of Child Protective Agencies in the case of suspected child abuse to meet mandatory reporting requirements. (See Bulletin No. 10, Child Abuse-Reporting, dated August 1, 1996, for further information).

B. Students Access to Confidential Medical Services

1. In California, minors have a statutory right to consent to medical care related to pregnancy, pregnancy prevention, including contraceptive services, and pregnancy termination, without the knowledge or consent of their parent or guardian.
2. In recognition of this right, the California Education Code (46010.1) states that school authorities may release a pupil from school for the purpose of obtaining confidential medical services without the knowledge or consent of a parent or guardian.
3. This statement appears as a notification to parents/guardians on the Emergency Card which is signed by parent or guardian during the enrollment process. It also appears in the LAUSD Parent/Student Handbook distributed annually to students/families by schools and available from the General Stores Warehouse.

4. According to the Education Code, school release (and/or readmission) for the purpose of obtaining those confidential medical services for which the minor can consent may be granted to students in grades 7-12. Thus, under state law, school authorities may release a student from school for the purpose of receiving such confidential medical services and/or readmit the student to school after the receipt of such care without the notification or consent of the student's parent or guardian.
5. Schools may require verification of appointments from the student's medical provider if it is also required for other similar absences. Any such oral or written verification, however, shall not appear in the student's school records.
6. Any and all medical records pertaining to these services are also confidential and may not be released without the student's consent.

C. Planning for the Full Participation of Pregnant Students and Teen Fathers in Education and Related School Programs

1. When school staff becomes aware of a student's pregnancy or impending fatherhood, it is their responsibility to make sure the student is aware of programs and services that may assist them in continuing their education and maintaining full school participation during their pregnancy and/or as a teen parent.
2. This should include informing them of their educational rights and options and of support programs available at school sites.
3. This planning process shall inform a student and their parent or guardian (with the student's consent if parent/guardian is unaware of the pregnancy) of the student's educational rights. This includes the right to continued attendance at their current school or program as well as their option to take part in voluntary specialized support or educational programs that may be of assistance.
4. As part of the planning process, information should be provided to pregnant and parenting students regarding their educational rights. A fact sheet regarding "The Educational Rights of Pregnant and Parenting Students" is available from the Pregnant/Parenting Teen Programs Office by calling (213) 625-4200. It is also available on the Pregnant/Parenting Teen Programs section of the Pupil Services and Attendance web page of the LAUSD website at: www.lausd.k.12.ca.us/lausd/offices/psa. The Educational Rights brochure informs students and their parents/guardians about the educational rights and

protections afforded to pregnant and parenting students by Federal and State law as well as District policy.

5. In addition to District programs and resources, referral information about other community programs and resources should be made available. Information about Adolescent Family Life or Cal-Learn Programs providing case management services for pregnant and parenting teens, including teen fathers, may be helpful along with information about other community programs as needed and available. (See Section P of this bulletin for information on Adolescent Family Life and Cal-Learn Programs). This information is available from the Pregnant/Parenting Teen Program Office and from the website.
6. Unless the student refuses consent for their involvement, a PSA or other counselor, school nurse, or other support services staff will generally be able to provide valuable information, assistance, and referral, and shall be involved in the process of educational planning and social services referrals.
7. Pregnant and parenting students, regardless of their marital status, have the same right to an education and to full school participation as other students. They also have the same obligation to attend school.

8.

In accordance with Title IX and the California Education Code, pregnant and parenting students have the right to remain in their regular or current school program, including honors and magnet programs, special education placements, alternative education or educational options program, extracurricular, intramural, and interscholastic activities, club athletics, and graduation programs or activities, as well as non-public school placements funded by the District.

9. Students cannot legally be expelled, suspended, or otherwise excluded from, or required to participate in school programs solely on the basis of the student's pregnancy, childbirth, pregnancy recovery or termination, conditions related to pregnancy, or marital or parental status.
10. While attending a school or educational program, pregnant or parenting students are entitled to full participation in any and all activities open to other students without exception.

11.

An educational institution may require a student to provide certification from their medical practitioner that they are physically and emotionally able to continue their participation in a school activity or program **only if such certification is also required** for other comparable health conditions or temporary disabilities requiring a physician's care which are not related to

pregnancy. A student who has been hospitalized due to childbirth, for example, may be required to submit a medical certificate for re-entry to school if such a certificate is also required of a student who has been hospitalized for other types of medical treatment or condition.

D. Participation in Physical Education

1. Pregnant and parenting students are entitled to participate in physical education on the same basis as other students.
2. A school may not ask a pregnant or parenting teen to obtain certification of a physician regarding their participation in normal educational activities including physical education **unless** such certification is required of all students for other physical or emotional conditions requiring the attention of a medical provider (34 CFR 106.40 (b)(2)).
3. When a student cannot meet the requirements of her regular physical education curriculum, schools must provide a pregnant student, or a student recovering from childbirth or a related condition, with an alternative physical education curriculum. This alternative curriculum should be modified as needed to meet the demands of the student's health and physical limitations as defined by her medical provider.
4. A "Sample Physician's Referral Form" provided by the consultant for the Cal-SAFE program at the California Department of Education may be obtained from the Pregnant/Parenting Teen Programs Office. It may be used by nurses or designated school staff to acquire information from a student's medical provider regarding participation in Physical Education, with the appropriate consents.

E. Reasonable Adjustments to Facilitate Full Participation

1. District schools and programs shall make reasonable adjustments to facilitate the full participation of pregnant and parenting students in the interest of providing equal access to educational programs and services for all students.
2. Reasonable adjustments, implemented on a case by case basis, might include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Providing hall passes for bathroom use as needed;
 - b. Scheduling classes in more accessible locations and/or providing elevator access when needed and possible;

- c. Allowing additional time for class changes and getting lunch;
- d. Providing alternative activities in physical education programs when requested by the student and her medical provider;
- e. Arranging for school-based independent study during an extended childbirth recovery or pregnancy related medical absence, when health status permits; or
- f. Allowing scheduling flexibility whenever possible to enable full participation and reduce school absence due to medical concerns. Examples of flexible scheduling include:
 - 1) facilitating track changes to minimize loss of school time at delivery and/or recovery or to permit the use of school-based child care when it is not available on all tracks; or
 - 2) allowing a reduced schedule of classes or contracts for a student with medical complications that make full day attendance or full participation in activities difficult—as might be done for students with other medical conditions that prohibit full day school participation.

F. Participation in Pregnant Minor/Teen Mother School Programs and Other Special Programs or Classes

- 1. If they choose to do so, pregnant students may elect to enroll in one of the District's Pregnant Minor School Programs (Riley or McAlister) **but enrollment must be completely voluntary on the student's part and they may not be denied access to regular school programs.**
- 2. A student's course needs shall be carefully evaluated before transferring to another school or program to be sure that her school credits and progress toward educational goals are protected. This is especially critical for students who are close to graduation and/or planning to attend college.
- 3. Students must be informed that college preparatory courses, honors classes, laboratory science, and advanced placement courses are not available at Pregnant Minor schools or at many of the other Options program school sites.
- 4. Counselors/teachers shall assist pregnant and parenting students in gaining access to those classes necessary for students to continue their adopted course of study while enrolled at a special program site such as pregnant minor. If

these classes are not available at the Pregnant Minor School or other special program, then students shall, whenever feasible, have other access to such classes. Such access can be provided by arrangement with a nearby school site offering the classes or through access to an approved alternative means to complete the prescribed course of study.

5. Pregnant and/or parenting students shall be provided access to any additional services for which those students may qualify, such as, but not limited to:

- a. special education services;

- b. programs and services for English Learners;

- c. magnet programs;

- d. migrant education; and

- e. free or reduced meals.

6. Both the California Education Code and Federal statute require that the academic and extracurricular programs offered to pregnant and parenting students in specialized programs be equal to those offered to non-pregnant or parenting students in the regular school program. This includes course work at schools and programs such as pregnant minor high schools, Cal-SAFE programs, or other voluntary alternative educational programs for pregnant or parenting students.

G. Procedures for Enrollment/Transfer to Riley and McAlister Pregnant Minor Schools

1. The District operates two specialized, voluntary programs for pregnant students at McAlister and Riley High Schools serving students in grades 7-12. Younger students are considered on a case by case basis.
2. A student may choose to attend one of these alternative schools, however, she must be informed that such attendance is completely voluntary. School staff/administration shall not coerce, or otherwise exert pressure on a student to attend a Pregnant Minor Program against her wishes.
3. The McAlister and Riley Schools offer the basic course work required for graduation. Both school programs offer smaller classes, more flexible hours, and additional specialized classes in child development, nutrition, health education, childbirth education, and parenting. The curriculum is built on an

individualized instructional contract model providing basic curriculum and selected electives.

4. Transportation assistance, breakfast, and lunches are provided to students at McAlister and Riley to facilitate program participation. Call the schools directly for additional information or brochures.
5. Ramona Opportunity School also offers an education program for pregnant students and teen mothers. It offers a small, individualized school setting for female students, some of whom are pregnant and/or parenting. Ramona serves students in grades seven thru twelve and has an infant/toddler early childhood education program available on campus for the children of students.
6. At the request of the student/family, the school of attendance shall arrange a transfer to a Pregnant Minor school by making a referral and sending the following items:
 - a. Pupil Accounting Report Form,
 - b. Clearance card,
 - c. Copy of immunization and health records,
 - d. Transcripts, and
 - e. A Doctor's Confirmation of Pregnancy (see number 7). It is essential that a copy of a student's health record accompany their transfer to a Pregnant Minor School or Ramona site so that appropriate health care services and referrals can be provided.
7. McAlister and Riley require a student to provide a confirmation of pregnancy from the student's medical provider as part of enrollment.
8. A student who is a minor will require the signature of a parent, guardian, or caregiver for enrollment in a Pregnant Minor School, as is true for enrollment at any other alternative or comprehensive schools.

9. Students and their parents/guardians are encouraged to make an appointment to visit the McAlister, Riley, or Ramona Opportunity programs as part of the enrollment decision-making process.

H. Facilitating Transfers Between Comprehensive School Sites and Pregnant Minor Schools (Riley and McAlister) or Ramona Opportunity.

1. Pregnant and parenting students, like other students transitioning between school programs at times of personal and family stress, may need additional school support in completing their transfer in a timely manner. Therefore, when a student is referred to a pregnant minor school or to another alternative school or program, the sending school shall contact the receiving school to make sure that the transfer is completed.
2. A Pupil Services and Attendance (PSA) Counselor referral shall be made to locate and assist students who do not complete the transfer to Riley, McAlister, or Ramona. The District PSA Counselor, District PSA Coordinator or designee shall be notified about assisting the student if a school does not have PSA services.
3. Although a student may transfer to a Pregnant Minor Program at any time during the school year, it is recommended that students receiving passing grades for a major portion of a given semester finish that semester before transferring, whenever possible.
4. When a transfer must be made close to the end of the semester or grading period, students shall be assisted by a counselor or administrator in making arrangements to transfer their leaving grades or complete credits.
5. Credits earned in the McAlister, Riley, and Ramona High School programs are transferable and are accepted by other secondary schools towards graduation requirements.
6. The home school is encouraged to keep contact with students while they attend McAlister, Riley, or Ramona and to support a student in making plans to return to the home school or an alternative education program after the birth of her child.

This is a difficult and stressful time for teens and a supportive educational environment is a crucial element in assuring on-going educational success.
7. The same referral steps shall be completed for students returning to their home

campus or transferring to an alternative school program after completing their Pregnant Minor Program. The sending (pregnant minor/alternative) school shall contact the receiving school to make sure that the transfer is completed. A Pupil Services and Attendance (PSA) Counselor referral shall be made to locate and assist students who do not complete the transfer in a timely manner. A referral to the District PSA Counselor or PSA Coordinator (or designee) shall be made when the receiving school does not have PSA services.

8. Students completing credits required for graduation have the right to request participation in graduation at and receipt of their diploma from their home school or they may choose to graduate and receive their diploma from Riley, McAlister, or Ramona Opportunity School.
9. In general, a student shall be encouraged to participate in the most rigorous or robust educational program possible to protect their full range of educational options. In some situations however, a student who has previously attended a comprehensive high school may benefit by transfer to an alternative Pregnant Minor school or other Options program.
10. For a parenting student faced with obstacles to continued education such as limited child care coverage, missing credits and/or the need to work while attending school, alternative education programs may provide assistance. Students may be assisted in continuing their education through participation in a continuation or an independent study program with more flexible hours and requirements. Students may also consider an adult education program that allows for flexible scheduling or attendance in the evening. Some continuation school programs also offer evening classes. Students should be encouraged to investigate all of their options and to participate in the most robust program that meets their needs.

I. Leave of Absence and Excused Absence for Reasons of Childbirth, Childbirth Recovery or Other Related Medical Care

1. Students are entitled to a leave of absence for reasons of pregnancy and related conditions including childbirth, miscarriage, termination of pregnancy and recovery therefrom.
2. **A leave of absence may be for as long a period of time as deemed medically necessary by the student's medical practitioner.**
3. At the conclusion of the leave, the student must be reinstated at the school with the same status as before the leave began. A doctor's note may be

required for readmission if it is also required for all absences due to medical conditions.

4. Students with excused absences due to pregnancy, childbirth, and related conditions, must be allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during their absence, or a reasonable equivalent of the work missed. Once work is satisfactorily completed, the students must be given full credit.
5. **This policy follows the mandates of both Title IX and the California Education Code and supersedes any school-based attendance or other policies regarding allowable numbers of absences or ability to make up missed school work.**
6. Students who meet the requirements of this section may not be denied privileges or the right to participate in any school activities due to their excused absence.
7. A doctor's note may be required for verification of medically related absences if it is also required for all absences due to medical conditions. (See Bulletin No. M-22 (Rev.), Homework and Makeup Assignments for School Absences in Grade K-12 and Education Code 48205).

J. School Absence to Care for a Student's Sick Child and Ability to Make Up Work

1. In accordance with the California Education Code, a student shall also be excused from school when he or she is the custodial parent of a child who is ill or has a medical appointment during school hours.
2. Students who are absent under this section are allowed to complete all assignments and tests missed during their absence or a reasonable equivalent, and, upon satisfactory completion, shall be given full credit (E.C. 48206).
3. Please be aware that while a student caring for his or her sick child is entitled to an excused absence for "truancy" purposes [E.C. 48205(a)(6)] their absence is not excused for the purposes of apportionment (SB 727/97).

K. Enrollment of Unemancipated Minor Pregnant or Parenting Students Living Independently or With a Non-Relative Adult

1. Senate Bill 592, signed into law in 1994, extends the criteria for establishing residency for school attendance to cover unemancipated students living with non-relative adult caregivers within school district boundaries. It also allows

the non-relative adult caregiver to enroll the minor and to provide consent for school-related medical care, such as immunizations.

2. This legislation is designed to improve school access for students in high risk situations or without a family/relative caregiver, including pregnant students and teen parents.
3. Using the Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit, a student may be enrolled in school and receive authorization for necessary school enrollment related medical care by a relative or by a non-relative caregiver over age 18 with whom the student resides.
4. Schools shall not prohibit school access to pregnant and parenting minor age students living with an adult non-relative caregiver within school boundaries when such caregivers have completed the affidavit used to establish residency for enrollment purposes.
5. Further explanation and a copy of the Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit for use in enrollment can be found in Bulletin No. Z-59, Enrollment of Homeless Children and Youth in Schools, dated December 21, 1998, Student Health and Human Services.
6. Minor pregnant or parent students living independently should be assisted with enrollment issues to permit the exercise of their educational rights and their continued educational progress. When enrolling a minor parent living alone, especially one receiving Cal-Learn or Cal-Works assistance, the use of a case manager from an Adolescent Family Life/Cal-Learn agency, a Social Worker from the Department of Children and Family Services, or the Department of Public Social Services, or a relative caregiver not living with the minor should be considered as an emergency contact for school enrollment purposes—until a relative or caregiver can be established.
7. School staff and agency service providers are often among the few reliable, trusted adults for a minor parent living on her or his own. School enrollment should be facilitated by whatever reasonable means available for both the educational and safety value it can provide.

L. Referral to Carlson Home and Hospital School Program

1. Carlson Home and Hospital School Program provides instructional services to meet the special needs of students with serious, disabling medical illnesses or conditions that prevent their school attendance.

2. Pregnancy alone is not considered a serious, disabling condition preventing school attendance and pregnant students are not generally eligible for Home and Hospital School services.
3. A referral to the Carlson program may be indicated in cases of pregnancy or postpartum complicated by a serious, disabling illness or medical condition, above and beyond the normal discomforts of pregnancy and recovery, that prohibit a student's attendance in school or independent study.
4. Referral for the Carlson program can be made by the school nurse (or the designee of the principal at sites without a school nurse), in consultation with the student's medical provider. Referrals will require medical documentation.
5. Pregnant students whose medical complications do not prohibit participation in independent study may be better served and better able to continue their school progress through participation in an Independent Study program implemented at their current school, through the provision of other reasonable adjustments to assist the student's continuing participation at their current school site, or through Independent Study Programs, such as City of Angels or the Independent Study Center.
6. Possibilities for school site remedies should be fully explored by counseling and administrative staff before referring to the Carlson Home and Hospital Program.
7. For additional information, contact the Carlson Home and Hospital Program administrators, at (818) 509-8759 .

M. Transfer to School Sites with Early Education or Child Care Programs on Campus

A select number of District school sites have infant/toddler early education or child care programs on campus.

1. These infant/toddler child care programs are offered first to students enrolled at and living within the boundary area of the school.
2. Child care may be offered to students from other school areas when openings are available for both the student and their child to transfer to the school site offering childcare.
3. The use of school-based child care is open to both teen fathers and teen mothers.

4. For additional information on child care resources at District sites refer to the Office of Pregnant/Parenting Teen Programs. This office also provides information on community based child care resources. Adolescent Family Life and Cal-Learn Programs will also have child care resource information (see Section P).
5. For further information about school and community resources for pregnant and parenting students, contact the Pregnant/Parenting Teen Programs Office at (213) 625-4200.

N. Additional Educational Options for Pregnant and Parenting Students

1. Every attempt shall be made to assist teen parents and pregnant students in maintaining the most comprehensive, robust educational program possible to best ensure their continued school progress and future educational options.
2. The enrollment process for teen parents interested in attending Educational Options programs including Continuation Schools, Independent Study Programs, Opportunity Schools, and Alternative Education and Work Center (AEWC) programs are the same as for other students.
3. Refer to the bulletin and brochure on Educational Options Programs or contact the Options Program Office at (213) 625-4586.
4. Also consult the brochure on Alternative Education and Work Center Programs and their program office at (213) 202-5470 for additional information about Dropout Recovery Programs (see # 7).
5. The signature of a parent, guardian, or authorized caregiver is required for program enrollment of minors (see Section K).

6. For information about Independent Study Program, contact

City of Angels	(213) 625-4188
	(818) 997-2544
Valley Independent Study	(818) 361-2986
South Central Independent Study	(323) 527-7317
Educational Options Office	(213) 625-7317

7. Alternative Education and Work Center (AEWC) is an educational alternative run by the Division of Adult and Career Education for youth, ages 14-18, who

have dropped out of school for a least 45 days and who want to earn a high school diploma or equivalency certificate. Out of school youth, including pregnant and parenting students, may request an enrollment conference with an AEWK Outreach Consultant at each site. If they are under age 18, they will need their parent, guardian, or an authorized caregiver to enroll. For a brochure and further information about AEWK programs, call their office at (213) 202-5470.

8. The AEWK program at the Los Angeles Technology Center currently runs a specialized program for toddlers on-site. To contact the AEWK Program and the Teen Parent Program at LA Technology Center, call (323) 732-0153.

O. A Pregnant and /or Parenting Student's option to Attend Community Adult School

1. Pregnant and parenting students who are minors have "adult status" for the purpose of adult school attendance and may enroll in adult education classes—even when they are not concurrently enrolled in any other district educational programs.
2. The option of attendance at Community Adult School is designed to maintain educational alternatives for students who may not be able to take advantage of traditional educational programs due to limited child care or the need to work.
3. Students considering this option are advised to consult with educational counselors at both secondary and adult education sites to make sure that programs through the Community Adult Schools will best meet their needs and protect their future educational options.
4. Independent study programs are also offered at Community Adult Sites. Many classes are offered in the afternoon and evening and some have flexible scheduling options (See Section 52610.5 of the Education Code).
5. Community college programs may also offer workable options to some older students for making up needed credits through joint enrollment or specialized Graduation Equivalency Diploma (G.E.D.) programs. Many community colleges also offer child care assistance for single parents, age 18 and older, who qualify through the E.O.P.S. or the C.A.R.E. programs. It is important to discuss such educational plans with both secondary and community college counselors.
6. The right of pregnant and parenting students to attend adult school while under 18 years of age is provided in Section 52610.5 of the Education Code. A brochure and further information about LAUSD Community Adult School

programs can be obtained by calling (213) 62-LEARN or (213) 625-3276.

7. Information about Community College programs can be obtained by contacting local Community Colleges and speaking with a counselor or the E.O.P.S. or C.A.R.E. program office.

P. Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP) and Cal-Learn Case Management Programs for Pregnant and Parenting Teens (Male or Female)

1. Adolescent Family Life Programs (AFLP) serving Teen Parents and Pregnant Teens.
 - a. In response to the high incidence of teenage pregnancy, the State of California established the Adolescent Family Life Program (AFLP) in 1985 with the goal of ensuring healthy babies, preventing additional early pregnancies, and encouraging continued school attendance, graduation, and employment.
 - b. The Los Angeles Unified School District area is served by four Adolescent Family Life Programs (AFLP) providing voluntary case management programs and supportive services to pregnant teens and teenage parents both male and female. These programs include Altamed Youth Services, El Nido Family Centers, Project NATEEN and the Southern California Youth and Family Centers.
 - c. AFLP programs provide assistance to pregnant and parenting students in staying in or returning to school as well as in accessing health care, child care, counseling, family planning services, and enhancing their parenting and life skills.
 - d. AFLP program services are provided free of charge on a voluntary basis to any pregnant or parenting teen under 19 (females) or under 21 (males) based on funding availability.
 - e. They provide services to both documented and undocumented youth and their families and have assisted many students in staying or returning to school. The AFLP program does not provide financial assistance but many free and low cost services are available to participants through the AFLP network of service providers.
 - f. Contact the Pregnant/Parenting Teen Program Office for referral information about AFLP Programs.

2. Cal-Learn Programs Providing Mandatory Case Management for Pregnant or Parenting Teens Receiving Cal-WORKS (formerly AFDC)
 - a. Altamed Youth Services, El Nido Family Centers, Project NATEEN, and Southern California Youth and Family Center, also provide mandatory case management and supportive services for pregnant teens and teen parents receiving Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF or Cal-WORKS, formerly AFDC) as a part of welfare reform efforts.
 - b. Cal-Learn program staff help eligible pregnant and parenting students stay in or return to school and continue progress toward graduation. They also help teen parents find and pay for child care and access needed social and support services.
 - c. Cal-Learn case managers make home visits, monitor school attendance and progress, provide support groups for teen moms and dads, and can assist school personnel in keeping teen parents in school and locating those who drop-out.
 - d. Pregnant teens and teen parents enrolled in the mandatory Cal-Learn program are eligible to receive monetary bonuses or sanctions to their family's assistance check up to four times a year at report card time, depending on their school progress.
 - e. Cal-Learn case managers can work with school staff to help students maintain and verify school attendance and progress.
 - f. Cal-Learn participants are also eligible for financial assistance with child care as well as ancillary educational needs (books, transportation, graduation, etc.). These students are eligible for a \$500 bonus upon graduation.
 - g. Assignments to the Cal-Learn and AFLP programs are made by student zip code. Contact the Pregnant/Parenting Teen Program Office or the LAUSD Website at www.lausd.k.12.ca.us/lausd/office/psa of Cal-Learn Programs serving LAUSD school site areas. Look on the Pregnant/Parenting Teen Programs section of the site for a list of Cal-Learn and AFLP programs serving LAUSD students.

Q. Discrimination or Harassment Complaints/Grievances Concerning Pregnant Student or Teen Parents (Male or Female).

1. The District, under current policies, and in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations, makes available the following grievance/complaint procedures for anyone who believes that the District is in violation of any of the regulations that pertain to pregnant and/or parenting teens which are set forth in Title IX and covered in this policy bulletin:

- a. Title IX Student Grievance/Complaint Procedure.

Reference: Bulletin No. L-4 (dated July 30, 1998), Title IX Policy/Student Grievance Procedure, Office of the General Counsel. This bulletin details both a formal and informal process for the filing and investigation/resolution of Title IX Complaints.

For additional information, contact the District's Educational Equity Compliance Office at (213) 229-5900.

- b. Sexual Harassment Policy - Students

Reference: Bulletin No. L-5 (dated July 30, 1998), Sexual Harassment Policy - Students, Office of the General Counsel. This bulletin details District policy and provides general guidance for complaint investigation and response.

For additional information, contact the District's Educational Equity Compliance Office at (213) 229-5900.

- c. Uniform Compliant Procedure

Reference: Memorandum/Notice reminder provided on a yearly basis to all schools and offices that describes the filing and investigation/resolution process to be used by anyone alleging that the District has practiced unlawful discrimination or failed to comply with state or federal laws governing its educational programs. With reference to the issues/concerns presented in this bulletin, Title IX is the nondiscrimination law involved that protects the rights of pregnant and/or parenting teens.

For additional information, contact the Specially Funded Programs, Technical Support and Monitoring Office at (213) 229-2000.

2. As described in either of the complaint procedures referenced above, complainants are afforded confidentiality and non-retaliation rights in the complain process.

3. Also afforded to complainants are their rights to local school-site resolutions or decisions concerning their complaints

a. Speak with the Local District's Title Coordinator by calling the Local District Office.

b. If still dissatisfied with the decision, a second appeal may be made in writing or by phone to the District's Educational Equity Compliance Office or to the California Department of Education (Gender Equity Unit) at the following addresses:

1) LAUSD Educational Equity Compliance Office
450 N. Grand Avenue, Room H-235
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: (213) 229-5900
Fax: (213) 617-2013
Web Site: <http://www.lausd.k12.ca.us/lausd/offices/eec>

2) California Department of Education
P.O. Box 944272
Sacramento, CA 94244-2720

4. Title IX complaints may also be filed with the U.S. Department of Education/ Office for Civil Rights, the agency charged with enforcing Title IX at the federal level.

U.S. Department of Education
Office for Civil Rights, Region IX
Old Federal Building
50 United Nations Plaza, Room 239
San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: (415) 556-4275
Fax: (415) 437-7783

V. REFERENCES/ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A. California School Age Families Education (Cal-Safe) Program. California Department of Education (Phone: (916) 654-3898).

B. Books, Babies and School-Age Parents: How to Teach Pregnant and Parenting Teens to Succeed by Jeanne Warren Lindsay and Sharon Githens Enright, PhD, published by Morning Glory Press. (Phone: (888) 612-8254; Fax: (888) 327-4362).

- C. Our sincere appreciation to the following individuals and their organizations for the consultation and review of this document:

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VI. RESOURCES AND REFERRAL

The following items are among the resources and referral information available from the Pregnant/Parenting Teen Program Office or the LAUSD Website at www.lausd.k.12.ca.us/lausd/offices/psa.

- A. Title IX Educational Amendments of 1972 - Fact Sheet (California Department of Education).
- B. Educational Rights Fact Sheet - Pregnant and Parenting Students.
- C. Adolescent Family Life Programs (AFLP)/Cal-Learn Programs.
- D. Sample Physician’s Referral Form - Physical Education (California Department of Education).
- E. Voluntary Education Programs and Options for Pregnant and Parenting Students (including School Sites with Child Care on LAUSD campuses).
- F. Education Code Citation - Enrollment of Pregnant/parenting Students in Adult Education Classes as “Adults” (E.C. 52610.5).

Contact the Pregnant/Parenting Teen Program Office for additional information.

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