

PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS | TITLE IX

Student Guidance Document

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. Georgia State University must comply with Title IX.

Process for Seeking Adjustments Due to Pregnancy and Parenting:

A student seeking an adjustment due to pregnancy or childbirth should discuss the request with their instructor. The instructor must grant the adjustments required by Title IX as described in this document. Instructors and students should address questions and requests for assistance to the Director of the Access and Accommodations Center at 404-413-1560.

Pregnant/Parenting Student Rights:

- You must be allowed to continue participating in class or extracurricular activities without requiring a doctor’s note.
- You must be provided with excused absences due to pregnancy or childbirth for as long as the absences are necessary.
- If an instructor’s grading is based in part on class participation or attendance, you must be provided with the opportunity to make up participation or attendance credits you didn’t have the chance to earn during absences due to pregnancy or childbirth.
- You must be provided with the opportunity to make up work missed due to pregnancy or childbirth and may choose to do so by the end of the semester or by taking an “incomplete” per the University’s policy on incompletes.
- You must be provided with reasonable adjustments like frequent bathroom breaks, a larger desk or temporary elevator access.
- You must be provided with the same special services that are offered to students with other temporary medical conditions, if any (e.g. If the instructor provides things like homebound instruction, at-home tutoring or independent study options to students with temporary medical conditions like mono or recovery from surgery, then pregnant students must be provided with those same special services).
- You must be allowed to return to the same academic and extracurricular status you were in before an absence due to pregnancy or childbirth.
- You should not be pressured to withdraw from a course or program, or to change educational plans due to pregnancy or childbirth.
- Instructors should not permit harassment based on pregnancy or parental status (i.e. not knowingly permit sexual comments, name-calling, jokes and the like about the student’s pregnancy).

Where to go if you have questions?

Please contact the Director of the Access and Accommodations Center at (404) 413-1560 for information and assistance.

Where to file a complaint of sex discrimination at Georgia State University, including discrimination related to pregnancy or parental status?

Please contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 404-413-1515 for information on filing a complaint.