



EL PASO COMMUNITY COLLEGE PROCEDURE

For information, contact Institutional
Effectiveness: (915) 831-6740

FAA-1

**Pregnant and Parenting
Students**
(Working Draft: Considered
official)

APPROVED:

Year of last review: 2025

REVISED:

AUTHORIZING BOARD POLICY: FAA

Classification: Institutional

Responsible Vice President or Associate Vice President: Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services

Designated Contact: Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services

OBJECTIVE: To establish protections and accommodations for pregnant and parenting students at El Paso Community College (EPCC).

PROCEDURE:

I. General

A. Definitions

For the purpose of this procedure, "parenting student" means a student who is the parent or legal guardian of a child under 18 years of age.

B. Pregnant and Parenting Student Protections

Title IX prohibits discrimination against a student based on pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, or recovery from any of these conditions. Title IX also prohibits a school, college, or university from applying any rule related to a student's parental, family, or marital status that treats students differently based on their gender. Additionally, the state of Texas has specific legislation extending additional protections for pregnant and parenting students, which must be followed. Tex. Educ. Code §51.982.

C. Pregnant and Parenting Student Rights

EPCC may not require a pregnant or parenting student, solely because of the student's status as a pregnant or parenting student or due to issues related to the student's pregnancy or parenting, to:

1. Take a leave of absence or withdraw from the student's degree or certificate program;
2. Limit the student's studies;
3. Participate in an alternative program;
4. Change the student's major, degree, or certificate program; or
5. Refrain from joining or cease participating in any course, activity, or program at the institution.

EPCC shall allow a pregnant or parenting student to:

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

II. Accommodations and Resources

A. Early Registration for Parenting Students

If EPCC provides early registration for courses or programs at EPCC for any group of students, EPCC shall provide early registration for those courses or programs for parenting students in the same manner.

B. Additional Accommodations for Pregnant Students

EPCC shall provide reasonable accommodations to a pregnant student, including accommodations that:

1. Would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition; or
2. Are related to the health and safety of the student and the student's unborn child, such as allowing the student to maintain a safe distance from substances, areas, and activities known to be hazardous to pregnant women or unborn children.

C. EPCC shall, for reasons related to a student's pregnancy, childbirth, or any resulting medical status or condition:

1. Excuse the student's absence;
2. Allow the student to make up missed assignments or assessments;
3. Allow the student additional time to complete assignments in the same manner as EPCC allows for a student with a temporary medical condition and;
4. Provide the student with access to instructional materials and video recordings of lectures for classes for which the student has an excused absence under this section to the same extent that instructional materials and video recordings of lectures are made available to any other student with an excused absence.

D. Parenting Student Liaison

EPCC shall designate at least one employee of the institution to act as a liaison officer for current or incoming students at the institution who are the parent or guardian of a child younger than 18 years of age. The liaison officer shall provide to the student's information regarding support services and other resources available to the students at the institution. The Parenting Student Liaison is housed in the Office of the Vice President of Student and Enrollment Services. Students can self-identify and request resources and/or accommodations through the EPCC Title IX website.