

Know Your Title IX Rights A Guide for Pregnant and Parenting Students

IF YOU ARE A PREGNANT STUDENT OR A STUDENT WITH A CHILD, THEN YOUR SCHOOL HAS A DUTY TO...

Allow You to Attend School and Participate in Extracurricular Activities:

- A school must allow you to go to your usual school programs and extracurricular activities.
- A school must allow you reasonable adjustments in its usual school programs for your pregnancy, such as more restroom breaks or larger desks.
- A school must ensure that any separate programs for pregnant or parenting students are voluntary, and their opportunities must be similar to those in regular school programs.
- If a school provides services like independent study or studying from home to other students with temporary medical conditions, then the school must also provide those services to you.
- A school must protect you from harassment related to pregnancy or parenting, like comments or jokes from teachers or students about your sexual activity or pregnancy.

Excuse Your Absences for Pregnancy and Childbirth:

- A school must excuse absences due to pregnancy and childbirth.
- When you return from such an absence, your school must allow you to return to the same academic and extracurricular programs if you want to.
- Teachers must allow you to make up late work with no penalty.

Allow You to Pump Milk at School:

- If you are nursing, you should be provided with break times, as frequently as needed, for pumping breast milk up until one year after the child's birth.
- Most employees must be given a private space to pump milk that is not a bathroom. Legal Momentum recommends nursing students ask for permission to use the same space that staff at their school use.

These are federal rights. You may have additional rights under state or local law. To get more information about your rights, contact your school's counselor or Title IX Coordinator. Speak with a lawyer to make sure you have all the information you need to enforce your legal rights.

If you are a pregnant or parenting student and need information, then please contact Legal Momentum's Helpline at titleix@legalmomentum.org or (212) 925-6635. You may also file a complaint with the Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights at (800) 421-3481, ocr@ed.gov or <http://www.ed.gov/ocr/complaintintro.html>.

