



TITLE IX & PREGNANCY

Pregnancy itself is not a disability. However, when medical conditions arise related to pregnancy that cause a student to miss class, it is viewed as a "temporary disability." As with any other temporary disability, the office of Counseling & Disability Services requires documentation from medical/health professionals that specifies the patient receiving care, appointments/hospitalizations dates, diagnoses, limitations and restrictions due to the stated health condition/diagnosis. This documentation must be complete and specific as accommodation may differ from in-person-class versus online-class format.

Under Title IX, pregnant students are allowed to make up coursework (tests, exams, assignments, etc.) that is missed due to medical necessary absences. A medical necessary absence is a documented medical treatment or care, including appointments and hospitalizations related to pregnancy. This documentation should be provided to the Counseling & Disability Services office. Once the temporary disability condition has been established, if the number of absences or missed assignments exceed the parameters of what it is typically accepted (due to technical standards, learning outcomes, departmental policies, etc.), the student may seek accommodation for the temporary disability related to pregnancy complications under Title IX.

It is important to mention that accommodations are not retroactive. However, in the case of a temporary disability, it is understood that emergencies occur and accommodations may not always be able to be requested in advance. In such cases, requests and documentation must be provided within a reasonable time frame (documentation presented well after the fact requesting "reopening" of assignments will not be considered).

The standard timeframe allowed for childbirth recovery is 2-weeks. If the physician or health professional orders a timeframe longer than the standard, the student should file the physician's order with the Counseling & Disability Services office. A student recovering in a shorter period than the standard allowed time is welcome to resume her course(s) sooner. Students in specialized programs such as the Allied Health programs are encouraged to communicate and file their accommodation as soon as possible as there are other factors to be considered in these programs.

For further information or questions, please contact:

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