



University Administration
Title IX

Title IX Basics for Pregnant Students

“Pregnant” here refers to someone who is—or was—pregnant. Title IX includes protections related to pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, false pregnancy, and recovery.

Legal Protections

- No discrimination based on pregnancy, childbirth, or related conditions
- Right to absences and leave
 - As long as your doctor says it is medically necessary for you to be absent, professors must excuse your absence, regardless of their absence policy
 - You must also be given an opportunity to make up any missed credit, including participation
- Right to academic accommodations if needed
 - Pregnancy-related disabilities, like any other disability, are covered under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
 - Disability Services has specifically trained staff to assist students with a wide range of conditions. They will collect information from you and your doctor about medical needs and then help you negotiate solutions that allow you to participate fully
- Right to complain if accommodations are violated

Requesting an Accommodation

- First, identify what accommodation would enable you to be able to fully participate
- Contact LSU Disability Services or your professor and ask how to get accommodations
- If you run into problems, contact the Title IX Coordinator

Common Accommodations for Pregnancy-Related Disabilities

In order to be able to continue their studies, some students with impairments relating to pregnancy, childbirth, abortion, or miscarriage may need an adjustment in how, when, or where they complete their academic work.

- Seating assignment near a door to facilitate bathroom breaks
- Ability to sit rather than stand in labs or other similar environments
- Additional breaks and/or time during exams
- Assistance of a typist or note-taker to compensate for pregnancy related carpal tunnel or joint problems
- Distance learning or teleworking options for students on bedrest
- Revised schedules for meetings or group activities
- Whatever meets your individual needs

Student Employees

Title IX requires that, at minimum, school employees be provided unpaid pregnancy and/or childbirth-related leave for a “reasonable” period of time.

- Following your leave, you are entitled to be returned to the same status you had when you left, or to a comparable position
- Under Title IX, you cannot be penalized for your leave with lower pay or loss of promotion/opportunities or other privileges

The pay that you receive while on leave, if any, will depend on your individual situation.

- Women typically receive paid leave through their university’s maternity or parental policies, and/or disability insurance

Under Title IX, pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy, and resulting disability or recovery must be treated the same as any temporary disability for all job-related purposes, including the provision of accommodations and other services.

- Discouraging employees from seeking or using their legally guaranteed accommodations may be considered discrimination

If Something Goes Wrong

The Campus Title IX Coordinator is the main point of contact for questions. LSU’s Title IX Coordinator is Jennie Stewart, and her contact information is at the bottom of this page.

LSU has a process for investigating, and the US Department of Education also investigates complaints. They accept complaints online, by phone, and by email.

Contact Us

Jennie Stewart – jstewart@lsu.edu

Title IX Coordinator

Campus Coordinator, LSU A&M

(225) 578-3918

LSU Cares
(Non-Disability Accommodations)

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Information for this handout was obtained from The Pregnant Scholar. For more information about Title IX and pregnancy, visit www.thepregnantscholar.org.