

Lamar State College Port Arthur  
**PROTECTIONS FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS POLICY**  
April 1, 2024

I. Definitions

A “parenting student” is a parent or legal guardian of a child/children under 18 years old.

II. Protections for Pregnant or Parenting Students

A. Pregnant or parenting students will not be required to do any of the following at LSCPA solely because of the student’s status as a pregnant or parenting student:

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.

B. LSCPA will allow a pregnant or parenting student to take a leave of absence of at least one semester and, 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 standing without being required to reapply for admission.

III. Protections for Pregnant Students

A. LSCPA will provide reasonable accommodations for pregnant students that would be provided to a student with a temporary medical condition, or that are related to the health and safety of the student and the student’s unborn child. These may include, but are not limited to allowing the pregnant student to maintain a safe distance from substances, areas, and activities known to be hazardous to pregnant women or unborn children.

B. For reasons related to a student’s pregnancy, childbirth, or any resulting medical status or condition, LSCPA will:

1. Excuse up to five absences in a semester without documentation from a medical provider and excuse any additional absences with documentation from a medical provider;
2. Allow the student to make up missed assignments or assessments within a reasonable timeframe, as determined by the department;
3. Allow the student additional time to complete assignments in the same manner as LSCPA 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 to the same extent that instructional materials and video recordings of lectures are made available to any other student with an excused absence.

IV. Requesting Accommodations, Excused Absences, or Leave of Absence from the LSCPA Liaison to Pregnant and Parenting Students

A. LSCPA has designated Laurie Marcantel as the liaison to pregnant and parenting students.

Laurie Marcantel, Liaison  
Student Success Center, Office 117  
409-984-6241  
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B. A student seeking accommodations, excused absences, requesting to make-up missed classes or assignments, or a leave of absence related to pregnancy or parenting, will need to complete an *Accommodation Request Form*, which may be obtained from the liaison to pregnant and parenting students and provide documentation from the student's medical provider as required by this policy.

V. LSCPA Liaison to Parenting Students

LSCPA has designated Laurie Marcantel to serve as a campus liaison to current or incoming parenting students. The liaison will provide these students information regarding support services and other resources available to the students at the institution, including:

- Medical and Behavioral Health Services
  - Gulf Coast Health Center
  - Port Arthur Health Department
  - Timely Care
- Public Benefit Programs
  - Seahawk Food Pantry
  - Southeast Texas Food Bank
- Parenting and Child Care Resources
  - Daycare Assistance
  - Foster Care Liaison
  - Catholic Charities
- Employment Assistance
  - Workforce Solutions, Texas Workforce Commission
- Transportation Assistance
  - Transportation Vouchers
- Student Academic Success Support
  - Laptop Loan Program
  - Tutor.com
  - Supplemental Instruction/Tutors