# PimaCountyCommunityCollegeDistrict Administrative Procedure

### AP Title:

# **Pregnancy and Related Conditions**

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	Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment
	(including Sexual Harassment), BP 5.10
Legal Reference:	Title IX of the Education Amendments of
	1972
Cross Reference:	Equal Educational Opportunity, BP 3.05

### Section 1: Purpose and Non-Discrimination Statement

The College does not discriminate in its education program or activity against any applicant for admission, student, applicant for employment, or employee on the basis of current, potential, or past pregnancy or related conditions. The College prohibits members of the College Community from adopting or implementing any policy, practice, or procedure which treats an applicant for admission, student, applicant for employment, or employee differently on the basis of current, potential, or past parental, family, or marital status. This Administrative Procedure (AP) and its pregnancy-related protections apply to all pregnant persons.

## **Section 2: Information Sharing Requirements**

- 2.1 Departments may share information as necessary to provide supportive services to and prevent discrimination of pregnant students.
- 2.2 When a College employee is informed by a student, or a person who has a legal right to act on behalf of a student, of the student's pregnancy or related condition, the employee shall provide the student with contact information for Access and Disability Resources (ADR), Student Affairs, or a Title IX Coordinator and communicate that they can help take specific actions to prevent discrimination and ensure equal access to the College's education program and activity.
- 2.3 Upon notification of a student's pregnancy or related condition, the ADR Office, Student Affairs, or Title IX Coordinator will contact the student and inform the student of the College's commitment to:
  - Prohibit sex discrimination.
  - Provide Reasonable Modifications.
  - Allow access, on a voluntary basis, to any separate and comparable portion of the institution's education program or activity.
  - Allow a voluntary leave of absence.
  - Ensure lactation space availability (see AP 5.10.01 and Pregnancy FAQ).
  - Maintain a Resolution Process for alleged discrimination (AP 2.03.01).
  - Treat pregnancy as comparable to other temporary medical conditions.
- 2.4 The ADR Office, Student Affairs, or Title IX Coordinator will also notify the student of the process to file a complaint for alleged discrimination, harassment, or retaliation in AP 2.03.01, as applicable.

### Section 3: Reasonable Modifications for Students

3.1 Students who are pregnant or are experiencing related conditions are entitled to Reasonable Modifications to prevent sex discrimination and ensure equal access to the College's education program and activity. Any student seeking Reasonable Modifications must contact the ADR Office, Student Affairs, or a Title IX Coordinator to discuss appropriate and available Reasonable Modifications based on their individual needs. Students are encouraged to request Reasonable Modifications as promptly as possible, although

retroactive modifications may be available in some circumstances. Reasonable Modifications are voluntary, and a student can accept or decline the offered Reasonable Modifications. Not all Reasonable Modifications are appropriate for all contexts.

- 3.2 Reasonable Modifications may include:
  - Breaks during class to express breast milk, breastfeed, or attend to health needs associated with pregnancy or related conditions, including eating, drinking, or using the restroom
  - Intermittent absences to attend medical appointments
  - Access to online or homebound education
  - Changes in schedule or course sequence
  - Time extensions for coursework and rescheduling of tests and examinations
  - Allowing a student to sit or stand, or carry or keep water nearby
  - Counseling referrals
  - Changes in physical space or supplies (for example, access to a larger desk or a footrest)
  - Elevator access
  - A larger uniform or other required clothing or equipment
  - Other changes to policies, practices, or procedures determined by the ADR Office, Student Affairs, or Title IX Coordinator
- 3.3 In situations such as clinical rotations, performances, labs, and group work, the institution will work with the student to devise an alternative path to completion, if possible. In progressive curricular and/or cohort-model programs, medically necessary leaves are sufficient cause to permit the student to shift course order, substitute similar courses, or join a subsequent cohort when returning from leave. Students are encouraged to work with their faculty members and the College's support systems to devise a plan for how to best address the conditions as pregnancy progresses, anticipate the need for leaves, minimize the academic impact of their absence, and get back on track as efficiently and comfortably as possible. The Title IX Coordinator will assist with plan development and implementation as needed.
- 3.4 Supporting documentation for Reasonable Modifications will only be required when it is necessary and reasonable under the circumstances to determine which Reasonable Modifications to offer to determine other

specific actions to take to ensure equal access.

- 3.5 Information about pregnant students' requests for modifications will be shared with faculty and staff only to the extent necessary to provide the Reasonable Modification.
- 3.6 Students experiencing pregnancy-related conditions that manifest as a temporary disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act are eligible for reasonable accommodations just like any other student with a temporary disability. The Title IX Coordinator will ensure the student receives reasonable accommodations for their disability as required by law.

### Section 4: Certification to Participate

All students should be informed of health and safety risks related to participation in academic and co-curricular activities, regardless of pregnancy status. A student may not be required to provide health care provider or other certification that the student is physically able to participate in the program or activity, unless:

- The certified level of physical ability or health is necessary for participation;
- The institution requires such certification of all students participating; and
- The information obtained is not used as a basis for pregnancy-related discrimination.

### Section 5: Lactation Space Access

The College provides students and employees with access to lactation spaces that are functional, appropriate, and safe. Such spaces are regularly cleaned, shielded from view, and free from the intrusion of others. See AP 5.10.01 for locations and access processes.

#### Section 6: Leaves of Absence

- 6.1 Students
  - 6.1.1 Students are permitted to take a voluntary leave of absence for a reasonable time as deemed medically necessary by their healthcare provider because of pregnancy and related conditions, and/or the birth, adoption, or placement of a child. The leave term may be

extended in the case of extenuating circumstances or medical necessity.

- 6.1.2 To the extent possible, the College will take reasonable steps to ensure that students who take a leave of absence or medical leave return to the same position of academic progress that they were in when they took leave, including access to the same or an equivalent course catalog that was in place when the leave began.
- 6.1.3 Continuation of students' scholarships, fellowships, or similar College-sponsored funding during the leave term will depend on student registration status and the policies of the funding program regarding registration status. Students will not be negatively impacted by or forfeit their future eligibility for their scholarship, fellowship, or similar College-supported funding by exercising their rights under this AP.
- 6.1.4 The Financial Aid Office can and will advocate for students with respect to financial aid agencies and external scholarship providers in the event that a leave of absence places eligibility into question.
- 6.1.5 In order to initiate a leave of absence, the student must contact <u>a</u> Deputy Title IX Coordinator at least 30 calendar days prior to the initiation of leave, or as soon as practicable. The Deputy Title IX Coordinator (or designee) will assist the student in completing any necessary paperwork.
- 6.2 Employees
  - 6.2.1 Information on employment leave can be found in the Medical, Military, Parental, and Personal Leave section of the Employee Handbook. Contact the Employee Service Center for information or support options.

#### Section 7: Information Dissemination and Training

This AP will be made available to faculty and employees, posted on the College website, and referenced in the College's annual consumer notifications. The College will alert all new students about this AP and the location of this AP as part of orientation. Student Affairs and ADR will make educational materials available

to all members of the College Community to promote compliance with this AP and familiarity with its procedures.

## Section 8: Definitions

"Familial Status" means the configuration of one's family or one's role in a family.

"Marital Status" means the state of being married or unmarried.

"Parental Status" means the status of a person who, with respect to another person who is under the age of 18, is a biological, adoptive, foster, or stepparent; a legal custodian or guardian; in loco parentis with respect to such a person; or actively seeking legal custody, guardianship, visitation, or adoption of such a person.

"Pregnancy and Related Conditions" means the full spectrum of processes and events connected with pregnancy, including pregnancy, childbirth, termination of pregnancy, or lactation; related medical conditions; and recovery therefrom.

"Reasonable Modifications" means individualized modifications to the College's policies, practices, or procedures that do not fundamentally alter the College's education program or activity.