

POLICY: PREGNANT STUDENTS**NEPN/NSBA CODE: JIE**

1. Pregnancy is considered a category of Other Health Functions under Special Education Regulations and appropriate special education and/or supportive assistance - such as hospital or homebound instruction - may be provided to pregnant students if recommended by the Pupil Evaluation Team and approved by the Superintendent.
2. Pregnant students shall be allowed and encouraged to attend all scheduled classes for the full term of the pregnancy.
3. If, during the pregnancy, attendance in certain classes is considered detrimental to the health and safety of the student or unborn child, by her doctor, the student will be excused from these classes.
4. If pregnant students must leave school early in the pregnancy, a statement from their physician stating the reasons why he/she is recommending the student not attend school must be forwarded to the school and accompany the referral to the P.E.T.
5. If it is estimated that special education or supportive assistance will be required for 60 calendar days or less, no Individual Education Program need be written although all other Pupil Evaluation Team procedures, records and notification must be completed.
6. If due to unforeseen factors, the period of service exceeds 60 calendar days, an I.E.P. shall immediately be written containing information on the services already provided and their continuation.
7. Particular care shall be exercised by the Pupil Evaluation Team members in dealing with pregnant students to safeguard the student's rights of privacy and confidentiality. Such cases, particularly if an I.E.P. is not required, shall be handled as expeditiously as possible after referral.
8. Any instruction offered to a pregnant student in a hospital or home situation must be provided by an appropriately certified teacher.
9. Homebound instruction shall not be conducted for more than 60 calendar days without prior approval by the Commissioner of Education and shall consist of at least two hours per subject per week.

(Ref. MRSA Chap. 404 Sect. 3123, Para. 101.6J and Sect. 3125 Para. 101.10J)

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