

Identification and Referral Process

- Identification of teen pregnancy by school nurse, social worker, guidance counselor, or Dropout Prevention Specialist
- Face-to-face conference with Student Services personnel (preferably school nurse or guidance counselor) or administrator at secondary school to discuss program options
- Eligibility is based on:
 - Student provided written verification of pregnancy from health department professional or physician
 - Student provided proof that they are the parent of a child under five years of age (birth certificate)
 - Student is under 21 years of age and enrolled in grade twelve and lower
 - Teen fathers will sign a statement with the mother that indicates parenthood
- Personnel must inform students of available options

Pasco County Schools

Kurt S. Browning
Superintendent of Schools

School Board Members

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District 1

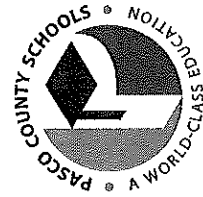
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Teen Parent Program (Cyesis)



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Pasco County Schools
Providing a world-class education for all students

Kurt S. Browning, Superintendent of Schools

Teen Parent Program (Cyesis)

Pasco's Teen Parent Program (Cyesis) provides a voluntary educational program and childcare for students who are pregnant or are parents. Students participate in courses for credit toward a high school diploma including advanced classes, as well as courses and activities in childcare, parenting, prenatal and postnatal health. Teen fathers may choose to participate in Teen Parent Programs at their regional home school, or Cyesis center and can participate in child development in the daycare setting. This Graduation Enhancement and Academic Intervention Program is supported by basic FTE and Supplemental Academic Instruction funds.

Program Goals

- To offer pregnant teens, teen fathers, and teen mothers with small children, voluntary educational options that will provide for their unique needs.
- To decrease the number of pregnant teens, teen fathers, and teen mothers with small children, not completing their high school education.

Grade Level of Students

The Teen Parent Program is designed to serve students from grades seven through twelve. Students in grade six and lower may be deemed eligible for the Teen Parent Program, but will require case-by-case consideration. Because of the special circumstances surrounding such young students, a meeting will be held with school administrators, parents, student services team (counselor, social worker, nurse), graduation enhancement teacher, and program supervisor to determine appropriate educational alternatives and services. Local agencies that offer support services to teen parents and their families will be invited as appropriate.

Option 1: Intended for teen parents interested in attending Teen Parent Program Cyesis at PHS & RRHS

- A conference will be held with the School Counselor designated to Cyesis, the applicant's parents, and the nurse
- The Cyesis Counselor will complete a student information form. The applicant will receive a class schedule and bus route information. The applicant's parents will complete the consent form (as appropriate)
- Teen mothers will be transferred to the Cyesis Teen Parent Program Center within one week of completing the application process
- Teen fathers will begin receiving services at their regional home schools if they do not choose to enter the program at the Cyesis Teen Parent Program Center
- Infants/toddlers will be enrolled in on-site day care centers at the time of the mother's or father's admission into the program, if applicable. Other infants will be enrolled when the mother returns to school after the infant is born. Children two weeks of age until age three may remain at Cyesis Teen Parent Program Center with teen parent
- Students (including teen fathers) are enrolled in child development, pre and post natal health care and parenting class

Option 2: Intended for teen parents interested in accessing education through Pasco eSchool

NOTE: Pasco eSchool accepts new registrations at semester breaks only. Mid-semester transfers are not possible.

- Student contacts Pasco eSchool office for registration and enrollment information
- A registration appointment with the Pasco eSchool school counselor will be scheduled to review the academic needs of the teen parent(s) and to provide information about the virtual instruction program
- The student must attend an orientation session to review program expectations, policies, and learn about the online course management system
- The teen parent will be required to participate in monthly calls, discussion-based assessments, and the district assessment plan at the Pasco eSchool site
- Transportation is not provided for participation in required testing sessions held onsite
- Computer hardware and internet subsidies are available for students who meet eligibility requirements under Florida statute
- The teen parent receives virtual parenting curriculum

Option 3: Intended for teen parents interested in remaining at their neighborhood school

- Student Services personnel will provide guidance and assistance for those teen parents that decide to remain at their home school
- School nurses will work with identified students to provide child development, pre and post natal health care and parenting information
- Childcare services may be available through Early Head Start for students opting to stay at their home school. Identified students will complete an application to determine eligibility for Early Head Start comprehensive services
- The teen parent receives parenting and pregnancy curriculum information from EHS staff and/or the school nurse. In addition, the EHS program also offers home-based services for teen parents who have chosen to use a voucher to obtain childcare through the Early Learning Coalition
- EHS staff and nurse will come to the home for weekly home-visits to provide parenting and pregnancy information and will adjust their schedule when reasonable, to accommodate the parent's availability

Option 4: Intended for teen parents interested in attending middle school campuses that are in proximity to Teen Parent Program Cyesis sites

- Middle School Teen pregnant students can apply and receive School Choice to those campuses that are located in the vicinity of an established Cyesis Teen Parent Program Center (i.e., Pasco High School (east side of county) or River Ridge High School (west side of county))
- Middle school campuses in proximity to Cyesis Teen Parent Program Centers are:
 - Pasco Middle School
 - River Ridge Middle School
- Transportation to the Cyesis Teen Parent Program Day Care centers will be available. Teen parent and their baby will be transported to the appropriate Cyesis Teen Parent Program Day Care (east or west side of county) and teen parent will be bussed to adjacent campus as noted above
- The teen parent will have the option of attending child development, pre and post natal health care and parenting classes at the Cyesis Teen Parent Program Center or can opt to obtain this information from the campus school nurse

Child care services may be available through Early Head Start. Teen parent students opting to stay at home may apply for comprehensive child care services with the Early Head Start Program. Early Head Start offers home-based services to expectant mothers/ infants/ toddlers and classroom services to toddlers. Identified students will complete an application to determine eligibility for Early Head Start comprehensive services. Home-based services are offered throughout the county; classroom services are offered at PHS, NRES and RBCEs.

Students can also be referred to the Early Learning Coalition to obtain child care through the School Readiness and other programs with private providers in the community.