

Teen Parent Program

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Academics

Teen parents attend and earn credit toward a regular high school diploma. Students may earn a half elective credit in one or more of the following courses:



Health for Expectant Parents



Parenting I



Parenting II

The curriculum includes instruction in such topics as prenatal health, labor and delivery, postnatal health, the benefits of sexual abstinence, and the consequences of repeat pregnancies. Parenting skills include instruction in the stages of child growth and development, methods for aiding in the intellectual, language, physical and social development of children, and guidance on constructive play activities.

To register for the Teen Parent Program or for more information, contact the guidance department at your school site or one of the following personnel:

Cathy Eckstein

Teen Parent Teacher

(352) 344-7417

Denise Willis

Director

Vocational Adult & Community Education

(352) 726-1931 ext. 2240

Child Care

Students who participate in the program are entitled to free childcare, when the student is in attendance at school.

The student may use any childcare center in the county, provided they are licensed by the Department of Children and Families.
An on-site childcare center is available at WTI on a first-come first-served basis.

Eligibility

Any student who is currently working towards a high school diploma and can document her pregnancy is eligible for this program.

This program is available at all high schools including: Lecanto, Crystal River, Citrus, and Withlacoochee Technical Institute.

Also, currently enrolled parenting mothers and fathers are eligible when they document the birth of their child. In addition, babies of parents who are enrolled in the teen parent program or have completed the program may participate.

Philosophy

Over one million girls in the United States under the age of twenty become pregnant each year. When combining the complications of adolescence with pregnancy, these teens run the greatest risk of psychological, social, and academic problems. National statistics show that only half of all mothers who have had children before the age of eighteen finish high school.

The philosophy of the teen parent program is that dropout prevention is best achieved by providing academic and social and emotional supports to pregnant girls and teenage parents. Our purpose is to offer a comprehensive academic curriculum, academic alternatives, child care, and enabling techniques through counseling to insure a secure future for the student and child.

Program Offers

The teen parent program is a voluntary program designed to provide a specialized parenting curriculum and coordination of additional services to meet the needs of students who are pregnant and students who are mothers or fathers.

-  **Academics**
-  **Childcare**
-  **Health Services**
-  **Social Work Services**
-  **Transportation**

Social Work

The teen parent teacher provides social work services to students as needed. The teacher

follows-up to assure that students are receiving services from various community agencies.








These agencies / services include:

**Healthy Start
WIC
Prenatal and Postnatal
Healthcare
Pediatrics
Medicaid
Food Stamps
Daycare Coordination
School Transportation**

Teachers

Teen Parent Teacher: Cathy Eckstein

-  Help students cope with being pregnant and becoming a parent.
-  Encourage and support academic achievement and school attendance.
-  Help coordinate social and health services for the family.
-  Coordinate transportation and daycare for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.
-  Deliver the parenting curriculum.

Transportation

Transportation to and from school is provided for teen parents and their babies, via public school buses with approved car seats