

Chapter 336

(House Bill 840)

AN ACT concerning

**Public Senior Higher Education Institutions – Pregnant and Parenting
Students – Plan Requirements
(Pregnant and Parenting Student Support Act)**

FOR the purpose of requiring certain public senior higher education institutions to adopt a plan regarding pregnant and parenting students using certain guidelines; requiring each public senior higher education institution to post the plan on the institution's website; and generally relating to pregnant and parenting students and certain public senior higher education institutions.

BY adding to

Article – Education

Section 15–140

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Education**15–140.**

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENT” MEANS A STUDENT ENROLLED AT A PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION WHO:

(I) IS PREGNANT; OR

(II) EXERCISES CARE, CUSTODY, OR CONTROL OVER A CHILD.

(3) (I) “PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION” MEANS:

1. THE CONSTITUENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND;

2. MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY; AND

3. ST. MARY’S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND.

(II) “PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION” DOES NOT INCLUDE:

1. THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES;

2. THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND GLOBAL CAMPUS;
OR

3. THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE.

(B) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT ALL STUDENTS AT AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE, REGARDLESS OF THEIR GENDER, SHALL ENJOY FREEDOM FROM DISCRIMINATION OF ANY KIND, INCLUDING PREGNANCY DISCRIMINATION AS DESCRIBED IN TITLE IX OF THE EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1972.

(C) (1) EACH PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION SHALL ADOPT A PLAN REGARDING PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH TITLE IX OF THE FEDERAL HIGHER EDUCATION ACT.

(2) THE PLAN REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

(I) REFERRAL TO ON-CAMPUS OR OFF-CAMPUS SERVICES TO ASSIST REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF OR ELIGIBILITY FOR GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, INCLUDING:

1. THE SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN;

2. THE CHILD CARE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM;

3. THE MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;

4. THE MARYLAND CHILDREN’S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM; AND

5. ANY OTHER PROGRAMS, SCHOLARSHIPS, OR SUBSIDIES FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS;

(II) THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION ABOUT OR REFERRALS TO RESOURCES REGARDING ADOPTION SERVICES;

(III) THE AVAILABILITY OF INSTITUTIONAL ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENTS, ~~INCLUDING PRIORITY CLASS REGISTRATION AND FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING OPTIONS~~; AND

(IV) A REFERRAL NETWORK OF ON-CAMPUS AND OFF-CAMPUS HEALTH CARE SERVICE PROVIDERS.

(D) ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1, 2026, EACH PUBLIC SENIOR HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION SHALL POST THE PLAN ADOPTED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION ON THE INSTITUTION'S WEBSITE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

Approved by the Governor, May 6, 2025.