

Pregnancy Policy

Sam Houston State University Athletics Department has instituted a pregnancy policy for the protection of the student-athlete and her developing child. Pregnancy is treated as a temporary disability and NCAA rules permit a one-year extension of eligibility for a female student-athlete for reasons of pregnancy.

Procedure

Though not required the student-athlete should inform their Athletic Trainer or Coach, as well as their personal physician/OBGYN, and family at the earliest known date of pregnancy so that appropriate medical and emotional support can be available. If the student-athlete is pregnant their scholarship will remain in place for the remainder of the granting year (NCAA bylaw 15.3.4.3). If the student-athlete desires to continue to participate in their sport they will be given information regarding the risks of participation. They must sign an informed consent form and meet with and be cleared by a panel of support staff including, but not limited to the following: personal and/or team physician, athletic trainer, and head coach. According to the NCAA, participation during pregnancy is possible up to the 14th week depending on sport* and healthcare provider's approval (**each case will be evaluated on an individual and sport basis*). This policy is based off of information from the NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook.

Insurance

Sam Houston State University Athletics Department does not provide medical coverage for gynecology and obstetrics conditions. It is, therefore, the responsibility of the student- athlete to seek and be financially responsible for the medical coverage related to the suspected or realized pregnancy.