

# STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS

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## A GUIDE TO HELP YOU THRIVE AT CAL POLY

### COMMITMENT STATEMENT

The Students with Dependents Initiative provides support to Cal Poly undergraduate and graduate students who are parents, guardians, and caregivers. We are committed to promoting your success by offering advocacy and support. The current and future Cal Poly community benefits from the wealth of diversity you bring to this campus.

### HISTORICAL STATEMENT

In 2017, the Student Parent Coalition formed to advocate for systemic support and resources for students with dependents. After making several recommendations to President Armstrong at their initial meeting, the Students with Dependents Initiative was formed in Fall 2019. The initiative has gained momentum and continues to steer the university toward a more family-friendly learning environment where students can be proudly visible and successful on campus as both a parent and a student.

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### DID YOU KNOW?

The university continues to advocate for students with dependents in meaningful ways:

- The Orfalea Family & ASI Children's Center provides on-campus childcare to dependents ages 6 months to 6 years old. Students with Dependents receive priority enrollment.
- ASI Board of Directors passed a resolution that urged the Academic Senate to update the Class Attendance Policy to Include students with dependents. Now, caring for a dependent qualifies as an excused absence, something that hadn't been established as a policy until now.
- President Armstrong sent a university memorandum for students with school-aged dependents to have exception status for registration so they can arrange their school schedules around their family needs.
- The Office of the Dean of Students continues to advocate for institutional policies so students with dependents can have a sense of belonging at Cal Poly while they persist in college.

### WE ARE HERE TO HELP

Register with our program today to get support, regular communications, and ample resources.

<https://tinyurl.com/students-dep>



**CAL POLY**  
Parent & Family  
Programs



## LISTED BELOW ARE RELEVANT RESOURCES TO HELP YOU NAVIGATE YOUR TIME AT CAL POLY:

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### **STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS INITIATIVE WEBSITE**

A website with over 100 resources listed specifically for pregnant and parenting students.

<https://parent.calpoly.edu/students-with-dependents>

### **SPECIAL EXCEPTION STATUS FOR REGISTRATION**

You may be eligible for special exception status for registration if you have school-aged dependents. This status is intended to alleviate complications related to scheduling conflicts between parental responsibilities and Cal Poly classes and course work. You can access the application with additional information on the Students with Dependents website.

### **PARKING PERMITS**

Students with dependents are ensured access to a parking permit. Contact the Students with Dependents Initiative at [studentswithdependents@calpoly.edu](mailto:studentswithdependents@calpoly.edu) if you are in the need of a parking permit for the Fall, Winter, or Spring quarter. Additionally, you may qualify for grant monies to financially assist you.

### **ORFALEA FAMILY & ASI CHILDREN'S CENTER**

The center provides quality early care and education services to Cal Poly students, faculty and staff. The ASI Children's Center provides services to children from 4-months to 6-years old and operates year-round Monday – Friday from 7:30am to 6:00pm. Parents who are Cal Poly students receive first priority for enrollment at the Center. Subsidized services are available for low-income student parents.

### **FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES**

Visit a Financial Aid counselor for assistance with financial aid including grants, loans, scholarships, and work-study. Please note that CA State Legislature approved new funding to increase the Cal Grant award for qualifying students with dependent children. Students might be eligible to receive an access award of up to \$6,000. Additionally, students can use childcare expenses as a way to increase their overall cost of attendance.

Building 1 (Administration), Room 212

Phone: (805) 756-2927

[financialaid@calpoly.edu](mailto:financialaid@calpoly.edu)



### **CALWORKS SERVICES**

The Office of the Dean of Students (building 81) can assist you in signing your attendance reports as well as provide guidance with book vouchers and Parking permits.

Please contact [student-success@calpoly.edu](mailto:student-success@calpoly.edu)

### **DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (DRC)**

Contact the DRC for resources available to pregnant students. They also offer learning assistance, note-taking, on-campus transportation, and test accommodations. The DRC also offers transcription services and alternative media programs.

Building 124

Phone: (805) 756-1395

[drc@calpoly.edu](mailto:drc@calpoly.edu)

### **OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR**

Contact the Registrar to gain information on the course and term withdrawals, leaves of absence (for pregnancy), and registration.

Building 1 (Administration), Room 222

Phone: (805) 756-2531

[registrar@calpoly.edu](mailto:registrar@calpoly.edu)

### **PREGNANT AND PARENTING STUDENT RIGHTS**

Students who have questions about the rights of pregnant and/or parenting students should refer to the Office of Equal Opportunity. They can assist students with filing a report if you believe your rights have been violated or were refused an appropriate accommodation.

### **CLASS ATTENDANCE POLICY**

The Class Attendance policy now includes “injury, illness, death, or any extenuating circumstances of close relatives (to include but not limited to natural, adopted, and/or in-law children...)”. If you find that your professor is not being accommodating, you could reach out to the Student Success, Support and Retention Office where an Associate Dean can advocate on your behalf.

### **BASIC NEEDS**

Find information about the food pantry, meal vouchers, emergency housing, and emergency grants.

Please note that the food pantry provides diapers and formula for student parents.

[www.basicneeds.calpoly.edu](http://www.basicneeds.calpoly.edu)

### **CAL POLY CARES**

Learn more about emergency grants up to \$2,000 for extenuating circumstances.

<https://studentaffairs.calpoly.edu/priorities/care-program>

### **COUNSELING SERVICES**

Free crisis, individual, couple and group therapy services for all enrolled students.

Building 27, Room 135

Phone: (805) 756-2511 (24/7 Crisis Line)

[counseling@calpoly.edu](mailto:counseling@calpoly.edu)

### **HEALTH SERVICES**

Services include physician and nurse care, immunizations, STI testing, with an on-site pharmacy, health education, and wellness programs.

Building 27

Phone: (805) 756-1211

<https://hcs.calpoly.edu/content/health/health-services>

### **SAFER**

Provides confidential advocacy and support resources for addressing sexual assault, sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking.

Crisis Services Location:

Health Center, Building 27, Room 184

### **EMERGENCY HOUSING**

Students with Dependents who face homelessness may qualify for on-campus emergency housing.

Please contact the Student Support, Success & Retention at [student-success@calpoly.edu](mailto:student-success@calpoly.edu).



**CAL POLY**  
Parent & Family  
Programs

Program Office Location: University Union,  
Building 65, Room 217

Phone: (805) 756-5883

[calpolyparent@calpoly.edu](mailto:calpolyparent@calpoly.edu)