



Miami-Dade County Public Schools, School Operations, Teenage Parent Program (TAP)

Student Rights and Responsibilities

All pregnant or parenting Miami-Dade County Public School's students working toward a high school diploma are eligible to receive services from the Teenage Parent Program (FR 6A-6.05292). TAP Students are entitled to support and assistance as they work toward high school completion; however, participation in the program is voluntary and requires annual parental consent.

TAP Students may remain at their home school or explore a specialized center. In M-DCPS there are two specialized centers which follow the Continuing Opportunities for a Purposeful Education (C.O.P.E) philosophy. They address the educational, social, and medical needs of teen parents and their children on site. For more information on the specialized centers contact them directly:

COPE NORTH

9950 NW 19th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33147
Ph.: (305)836-3300

DOROTHY M. WALLACE COPE CENTER

10225 SW 147th Terrace
Miami, Florida 33176
Ph.: (305)233-1044

ANCILLARY SERVICES TAP Students are eligible to receive the following based on their particular needs:

Health Services

Basic health service is extended to all pregnant and parenting students enrolled in the TAP program, regardless of their economic status. These services are available through school health clinics (full service schools, Health Connect in Our School Clinics, School Clinics) or through outside community providers. For more information regarding the health services TAP students are advised to contact their school's TAP contact.

Social Services

According to Florida Rule 6A-6.05292, social services include counseling assistance or case coordination. Provision of social services is provided through the collaborative efforts of the school's student services team, school social workers and community providers in partnership with the TAP program.

Transportation

Transportation, for pregnant or parenting students and the children of those students, is offered to all TAP students who attend their home school and utilize childcare services. Transportation may be available for special programs as deemed appropriate by school district guidelines. Contact M-DCPS transportation department for more information.

Eligible TAP students receive door to door transportation from home to their child's childcare center then to school in the mornings and from school to the childcare center and back home in the afternoons. Children must use an M-DCPS car seat to ensure the child's safety while on the school bus. Car seats are available through the District TAP program office.

Childcare Services

Miami-Dade County Public School, childcare services for the children of TAP students are available through contracted childcare facilities with M-DCPS. Selection of a childcare center is an important decision for every parent; this decision is to be made by the TAP student and parent/guardian. **Miami-Dade County Public Schools employees may not make recommendations regarding a particular childcare center.** TAP contacts may only provide TAP students with guidance on how to select a childcare center.

ENROLLMENT INTO THE TEENAGE PARENT PROGRAM:

A conference with School TAP Contact, parent/guardian and TAP Student is necessary for enrollment in the TAP program each school year. Program participation is annual ending on the last day of the school year. If a TAP Student plans on attending summer school, he/she must re-enroll in the program to receive services.

The TAP Student's parent/guardian must sign the **Parental Decision Letter Regarding Placement** noting their agreement to participate in the program (FR 6A-6.05292 1.d). If the TAP Student is eighteen years old or older and lives on his/her own, he or she signs the Parental Decision Letter Regarding Placement.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

PARENTING SKILLS TRAINING: As part of the TAP program, TAP students must take at least one parenting skills training class, participate in a parenting skills group or be engaged in individual counseling where parenting skills are a focus (FS 100.54 3.b).
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ATTENDANCE: TAP Students are expected to attend school each school day, on time and to abide the district's attendance guidelines (FS 100.54 3a). Make-up work missed due to absences is required in order for TAP Student to maintain academic progress.

- Pregnancy or parenting related tardy arrivals, early leaves and/or absences are excusable with appropriate documentation.
- Upon delivery of a newborn, the TAP Student is entitled to 20 school days of excused absences to parent the newborn child. It is best practice for the TAP Student and the parent/guardian to meet with teachers to establish an educational plan prior to pregnancy due date. Focus should be on providing the teachers with adequate time to prepare assignments and for TAP Student to complete course work. TAP Students must complete all required course work and pass all necessary testing to obtain credit for each class.
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CHILDCARE: TAP Students must identify a childcare center for his/her child. The Florida Department of Children and Families website is useful in identifying a quality childcare center ([Child Care - Florida Department of Children and Families \(myflfamilies.com\)](http://myflfamilies.com)). TAP Student's must ensure the childcare center has space for the child's age group. Location should be considered, in particular if MDCPS transportation will be utilized. The childcare center must be in route to the school and have adequate space for a school bus to safely stop in order for a school bus to be assigned.

1. TAP Students are required to present the following documents to the TAP Contact in order to access childcare services:
 - School identification card or a state issued identification
 - Infant/toddler birth certificate or a notarized affidavit of age (*valid for 30 days*)
 - **2 Originals** of the child's Florida Certification of Immunization Form (HRS 680)
 - **2 Originals** of the child's School Entry Health Exam Form (DH 3040) page 1 completed by the TAP Student and page 2 by the pediatrician
2. TAP contact meets with the school's registrar to have the child enrolled into DSIS.
3. TAP Students must complete childcare enrollment with appropriate provider. For questions contact the TAP District office at (305) 636.7356

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4. TAP Students must return completed TAP Childcare Enrollment Form to the TAP Contact within 24 hours of enrollment

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5. Childcare services funded by the TAP program are only available to TAP Students on school days. **The TAP program CANNOT fund childcare on “No School” Days.** This includes winter and spring break, teacher workdays, state holidays and any other day when school is suspended. TAP Students who take their child to the childcare center on “No School” days are responsible for payment directly to the childcare center. Approval for school sponsored activities may be requested through the TAP office via email (LTrice@dadeschools.net, MarcyP@dadeschools.net, or aperry@dadeschools.net)

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IMMUNIZATION: The infant/toddler immunizations must be consistently up to date with the childcare center and the M-DCPS. This requires TAP Student’s to obtain **2 Originals of the child’s** immunization form (HRS 680) each time his/her child’s immunizations are updated. One must be provided to the childcare center and the other to the TAP Student’s school Registrar. **TAP Students are at risk of having their childcare services suspended if their child’s immunizations are not updated in a timely manner.**

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TRANSPORTATION: TAP Students must provide the school with an accurate home address and childcare center address to request a MDCPS school bus. Transportation will **ONLY** be provided to and from the address listed in DSIS. The TAP Student and his/her child should be outside at least ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled bus arrival time.

COMMUNICATION: Each school has a designated TAP Contact available to assist TAP students with service needs. The District TAP office is also readily available to support TAP students. Feel free to contact the TAP office with any questions or concerns at TAP@dadeschools.net, (305) 636.7356.

FOLLOW US   @MDCPSTAP 

(TAP Student Name)

(TAP Student Signature)

(Date)

Student ID#

(Parent/Guardian of TAP Student Name)

(Parent/Guardian of TAP Student Signature)

(Date)