

Boston College Law School
Law Student Childbirth and Adoption Accommodation Policy
(September 2018)

Boston College recognizes the importance of family issues to its graduate students. Any full-time Boston College Law School law student in good academic standing who is the primary caregiver of a newborn child or an adoptive child under the age of 13 newly placed in the home is eligible for an accommodation. This student accommodation is not an employee medical leave or a leave of absence from the academic program.

In connection with the birth of a child, a law student who is the primary caregiver of the child is eligible for an accommodation extending for a period of up to eight consecutive weeks. A law student who is the primary caregiver of an adoptive child under the age of 13 newly placed in the home is eligible for an accommodation extending for a period of up to eight consecutive weeks immediately following the placement of the child in the home.

During the accommodation period, the law student may attend classes and work on course assignments to the extent possible. The law student and the Assistant Dean of Academic and Student Services should work with the professors in these courses to adjust, to the extent reasonably possible, attendance requirements, assignment deadlines, and exam dates during the accommodation period. The Assistant Dean of Academic and Student Services should work with the law student to establish appropriate timetables for completing course work and exams during the semester in which the accommodation is taken. Course and attendance accommodations are subject to American Bar Association accreditation rules.

Teaching Assistant stipends provided to the law student by the University will continue during the accommodation period. The accommodation policy will not extend the total time during which the funding is available to a student.

Details of the arrangement should be worked out in writing between the law student and the Assistant Dean of Academic and Student Services before the accommodation period begins. A law student anticipating a childbirth or adoption accommodation must submit a written request to the Assistant Dean of Academic and Student Services. Requests for accommodation should be made no less than three months before the expected start of the accommodation period in order to allow appropriate arrangements to be made to cover any Teaching Assistant responsibilities.