

PREGNANT VETERINARY MEDICAL STUDENT GUIDELINES

The potential for human injury always exists in the practice of veterinary medicine, and it increases whenever an involved person is pregnant.

Undoubtedly, the greatest hazards are accidents which can occur while working with animal patients and which might cause physical trauma to the pregnant woman and/or her unborn child. Added hazards exist through exposure to toxic drugs, infectious agents, inhalation anesthetics, radiation and other agents.

The pregnant student is advised (but not required) to:

1. Contact the Academic Affairs Office for specific information on the types of toxic, infectious, radiation and other hazards to which the student may be exposed.
2. Contact a physician immediately to get recommendations for a plan to minimize exposure to the hazards that may be associated with a veterinary student's clinical assignments.
3. Provide a signed statement from the physician, which defines permitted limits of exposure to possible hazards during the pregnancy.
4. Inform administrators in the College of Veterinary Medicine of the pregnancy as early as possible in order that steps may be taken to conform to the plan developed by the physician.

The student may be required to provide a physician's certification that she is physically and emotionally able to continue to participate in educational activities only if such a certification is required of all students for other physical or emotional conditions requiring the attention of a physician.

CHOICES FOR THE STUDENT TO MAKE:

1. Withdrawal as a student. The pregnant student may consider withdrawing as a student and plan to be readmitted to graduate with the next class in veterinary medicine. This option minimizes risks, but delays graduation.
2. Continuation as a regular student with some schedule and assignment changes. This option may not delay or only slightly delay the time of graduation. This option may not be without risks. It is dependent upon:

- a. The College's ability to make changes in an individual's schedule of assignments which are prepared in advance for an entire calendar year.
 - b. The willingness of classmates to exchange schedule assignments with the pregnant student.
3. Leave of absence other than the withdrawal in #1 above. For a student who wants time off but does not want to Withdraw and re-enter with the next graduating class, She may obtain a leave of absence for the time period Deemed medically necessary by her physician. However, It will be the student's responsibility to make up assignments or courses missed during the leave of absence. There is no assurance that the College will be able to reschedule assignments or courses for the student's convenience.
4. Continue as a student with no schedule or assignment changes.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

It is recognized that the pregnant woman has rights and the responsibility for decisions concerning her pregnancy. No one acting on behalf of the College of Veterinary Medicine may discriminate against a student on the basis of pregnancy. She should expect due consideration from everyone associated with her during her pregnancy whatever her decision may be.

At the same time she is expected to complete each and every requirement of the veterinary curriculum by a schedule or plan that can be reasonably implemented and under which risks are deemed acceptable by her and her physician.

Copies of all documents pertaining to a pregnant student's assignment must be maintained in the student's file.

Adopted by the CVM Cabinet, June 1, 1983
Revised by NCSU Legal Affairs, 7-1-99

COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE

NORTH CAROLINA

WAKE COUNTY

RELEASE, HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT

I, _____, a duly enrolled student in the College of Veterinary Medicine of North Carolina State University at Raleigh, a constituent institution of The University of North Carolina created in Chapter 116 of the General Statutes; and I, _____, the husband of STUDENT and the father of the unborn fetus/child do agree, both jointly and separately as follows in consideration for permission by COLLEGE for STUDENT to continue her studies in the COLLEGE during her pregnancy.

1. STUDENT and HUSBAND acknowledge that STUDENT is pregnant and that they have so informed COLLEGE of this fact on _____.

2. STUDENT and HUSBAND acknowledge that they have read and understood the COLLEGE document "Pregnant Veterinary Medical Student Guidelines," a copy of which is attached to and made a part of this agreement.

3. STUDENT and HUSBAND agree that STUDENT voluntarily choose to continue as a student under option 2 and 4 of the "Guidelines".

4. STUDENT and HUSBAND acknowledge that they individually and jointly understand that there may be risks for STUDENT and/or for the CHILD associated with the continuation of STUDENT'S studies under option 2 and 4 and they do hereby agree, both individually and jointly, to assume all risks both to STUDENT and CHILD that may arise out of STUDENT'S continued enrollment in the COLLEGE.

5. STUDENT and HUSBAND do hereby agree to release, hold harmless and indemnify COLLEGE, NCSU UNIVERSITY, their Board Members, Trustees, officers, administrators, employees and agents against any and all claims of personal injury or bodily injury to STUDENT that relate to the pregnancy of STUDENT and that arise out of acts or omissions that occur while STUDENT is meeting the assignments and requirements of a student in the COLLEGE during the period _____.

6. STUDENT and HUSBAND do both individually and jointly agree to release, hold harmless, and indemnify COLLEGE, NCSU UNIVERSITY, their Board Members, Trustees, officers, administrators, employees, and agents against any and all claims of personal injury or bodily injury that may be made by or on behalf of the born or unborn CHILD of STUDENT and HUSBAND when

such claims arise out of acts or omissions that occurred while STUDENT was pregnant and enrolled as a student in the COLLEGE during the period _____.

RELEASE, HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT

7. STUDENT and HUSBAND agree that this release, hold harmless and indemnification agreement shall be binding on them, their heirs and assigns.

8. STUDENT and HUSBAND acknowledge that they have informed their liability insurance company of the existence of this agreement.

_____(SEAL)

STUDENT date

_____(SEAL)

HUSBAND date

Sworn and subscribed to before me this the _____day of _____, 20_____.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:
