

Teenage Parent Program (TAP)

TAP is a voluntary educational program that is designed to fit the immediate needs of students who are pregnant and/or parenting.

TAP helps a student continue or complete middle or high school requirements while learning the many skills needed to become a competent parent and responsible adult.

HOW TO ENROLL

- ✓ You must be under 19 years of age with grade appropriate academic credits
- ✓ Complete an application to the TAP Program
- ✓ Contact your zoned school Guidance Counselor
- ✓ Contact TAP Social Worker
- ✓ After acceptance, schedule course registration (parenting course) with the Guidance Counselor or Assistant Principal
- ✓ Children must have documentation of physical examination, immunization record, and birth certificate

Teen Pregnancy Facts

- Three in ten teenage girls in the U.S. become pregnant at least once by the age of 20 (CDC, 2017).
- Seven out of ten teenagers have had sex by the time they reach age 19 (Guttmacher Institute, 2017).
- Teenage mothers are less likely to complete high school; only one-third receive a high school diploma (CDC, 2017).



Teenage Parent Program



SERVICES AVAILABLE

- ❖ Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten Program (VPK) (4-year-olds)
- ❖ Transportation for infants to daycare center where child has been accepted, and transportation for teenage moms/dads to their zoned schools
- ❖ System of Care - Mental wellness services, and wrap-around social services

Partnerships:

- HIPPY - Home instruction for Parents of Pre-school Children (3-5 years old)
- Early Learning Coalition
- Healthy Families Florida – Voluntary program for support and coaching to improve parenting skills and achieve goals that increase family stability and self-sufficiency.
- Kid-to-Kid Closet
- Alachua County Health Department
- WIC Florida

The School Board of Alachua County partners with the Early Learning coalition of Alachua County (ELC). ELC provides financial assistance for childcare and school readiness for teenage parents that meet eligibility requirements. They coordinate services for children from birth through kindergarten.

The School Board of Alachua County has a Daycare Services Agreement for Children of Teenage Parents. This agreement is a partnership with Child Care providers in Alachua County to provide daycare services for children of teen parents. Services provided by the child Care Centers shall comply with the pertinent provisions of Florida Statutes and Rules of Florida Department of Education in accordance with Section 1003.54, *Florida Statutes*.



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ACADEMICS

- ❖ Online instructional option: Parenting Skills course
- ❖ Project YouthBuild
- ❖ Academic classes required for graduation
- ❖ 18-credit graduation option



TAP embodies the following concepts:

- ❖ The continuation of a high school education will increase wage-earning opportunities and therefore directly improve the quality of life.
- ❖ The health of pregnant teens and their babies can be greatly improved.
- ❖ The preparation for becoming a responsible parent can be significantly enhanced.
- ❖ The improved health and school-readiness of the children of these students can be attained through child care in a safe, healthy, and stimulating environment.
- ❖ The prevention of a repeat pregnancy during the teen years can positively affect the lives of parents and children and will reduce the drain on welfare programs.