



GUIDELINES PERTAINING TO ACCOMMODATION AND SUPPORT OF PREGNANT STUDENTS AT THE CECIL COMPLEX

1 INTRODUCTION

These guidelines and its rules and procedures objectives is to ensure responsible sexual lifestyle among students.

Observation of the guidelines does not exclude adherence to CECIL COMPLEX rules and regulations, and Section 27 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act No 108 of 1996 as amended.

2 BACKGROUND

This guideline is informed by the fact that there has been an increase in the number of student pregnancies in university residences, there have been dreadful incidences of abortions without the knowledge of the residences staff concerned.

The right with regard to choices that pertain to reproduction is a personal responsibility and the Cecil Complex's duty towards students is accommodative and academic by nature. However, the University (UMP) does provide counselling to students regarding sexual matters as well as Antenatal treatment at the Campus Health Care Centres.

In the light of a student falling pregnant, these guidelines should be seen as a way of ensuring the well-being of the student, the baby, as well as ensuring that the CECIL COMPLEX cannot be held liable in the case of unforeseen circumstances; and it should not be seen as being punitive.

3 STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Cecil Complex to define the categories, responsibilities and compliance procedures regarding treatment and support to pregnant students. Cecil Complex believes that students should not be unduly hampered in their studies due to pregnancy and the guidelines seeks to address the challenges that pregnant students may experience due to pregnancy.

4 DEFINITIONS

CC:

Means Cecil Complex, the residence where the students are residing at.

Constitution:

Means the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (Act No 108 of 1999) as amended (Act No 35 of 1997).

Primary Health Care:

Means Primary Health Care services that include, *inter alia*, assessments, diagnoses & treatment of minor ailments according to the Essential drug list (EDL); Reproductive Health, including Contraceptives & Emergency Contraceptives (Morning-After Treatment), Antenatal Care, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI), Breast & Cervical Examinations, Termination of Pregnancy referrals, Male & Female Condom Issuing & Distribution; TB Screening &/or Management of TB; Emergency Services including Post Exposure Prophylactic Treatment; Disease Outbreaks & Immunisation Programmes; HIV Management including VCT, prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT) excluding ARV's; Chronic Disease Management (Hypertension, Diabetes, Asthma, Epilepsy) .

Nurse:

Means A person educated and trained to care for the sick or disabled, who has passed the required the formal academic training, has done the required practical work and is registered with the South African Nursing Council.

Social Worker:

Means Organized work intended to advance the social conditions of a community, and especially of the disadvantaged, by providing counseling, guidance, and assistance, especially in the form of social services. The person has passed the required formal academic training, has done the required practical work and is registered with the South African Council for Social Workers

Psychologist:

It means a person trained and educated to perform psychological research, testing, and therapy. The person has passed the required formal academic training, has done the required internship and is registered with the South African Health Professions Council

Student:

Means any registered to be staying at CC for a particular academic year.

Residence Officer:

CC Staff member responsible for a particular residence.

Residence Student Assistant:

CC registered and employed student in the residences assisting the Residence Officer with menial duties.

Parent:

Biological father or mother of a student.

Guardian:

Any legally appointed person responsible for payment of fees for a particular student.

5 RULES

- 5.1 As soon as the student knows her pregnancy status, she must immediately consult the University Camps Health Service or Public Clinic for examination.
- 5.2 The Campus Health Service or Public Clinic Nurse shall advise and if required, refer the student to the Student Counselling.
- 5.3 Pregnant Student shall bring a letter from the Campus Health Service or Public Clinic stating the status of her pregnancy to the Residence Officer (RO), but no later than 12 weeks of their pregnancy.
- 5.4 All students' information shall be handled with utmost confidentiality by the Residence Officer. The residence staff acknowledges the individual confidentiality and privacy as stated within Chapter 2, nr. 14 of the Bill of Rights and the PoPI Act.
- 5.5 With the pregnant student's permission, the father of the unborn child shall be contacted to determine his role in support of the pregnant student.
- 5.6 The student is only allowed to stay within the Cecil Complex residences until the seventh (7th) month (28th Week) of the pregnancy, and then the student must vacate the residence. The student shall advise the Residence Student Assistant (RSA) on the date on return to the residence. Babies are strictly not allowed in the Cecil Complex residences.
- 5.7 No facilities are available for infants or older children in residences and that for the academic atmosphere to prevail, infants or older children are not allowed to stay overnight or be accommodated in Cecil Complex residences.
- 5.8 Students will be allowed to return to the residence after their confinement, if so desired and if a room is available under the same conditions and rules that apply to other residents.
- 5.9 The student will be liable for fees during her absence, provided that she does not cancel her room. Cancellation of the room procedures as per lease agreement are compliant.
- 5.10 The Cecil Complex has no obligation and accepts no responsibility for obtaining of suitable housing or the evacuation of pregnant student's room in the residences.
- 5.11 All students who are allowed into women's residences and their parents/guardians (depending on their age) must annually sign an agreement in which they subject themselves to the afore-mentioned guidelines.
- 5.12 Medical certificate of the pregnancy must be attached to this form when being submitted at the residence office.
- 5.13 Students not abiding by the above regulations, and who are found out, will be subject to disciplinary action.

ANNEXURE A

I, _____, Student number,

_____ hereby take note of the Cecil Complex's rules and guidelines pertaining to pregnant students in residences.

1. I realise that the right to choices regarding my reproduction is a personal responsibility, and that the Cecil Complex's duty towards me is accommodation and academic facilities of nature, although the Cecil Complex does provide guidance to students on sexual matters and services relating to prenatal care as well as Antenatal treatment.
2. I take note that I must inform the Residence Officer, Campus Clinic Nurse and Public Clinic, Social Worker or Student Counsellor of my pregnancy not later than the 12th week of my pregnancy.
3. I realise that, if I fall pregnant, I will only be allowed to make use of the Institution medical and social services and to be accommodated in the residence until the 28th week (7th month) of pregnancy. The pregnancy must be asserted by a professional nurse at the Health Centre on campus or Public/Private Clinic (unless proved otherwise by a medical practitioner, professional nurse and/or blood test at my own cost) where after I will leave the residence, in the interest of my own health and that of my unborn child.
4. I take note that I may return to the residence after confinement, if so desire and if a room is available, under the same rules and conditions that apply to any other resident.
5. I realise that there are no facilities in the residences for infants or older children and that, for the academic atmosphere to prevail, they will not be allowed to stay overnight or be accommodated in Cecil Complex Residences.
6. Cecil Complex has no obligation and accepts no responsibility for the evacuating of my room in the residence or the obtaining of suitable residence.
7. I realise that I need to submit my medical certificate of my pregnancy to the residence office, attached to this form.

Signed at _____ on this _____
day of _____ 20____

STUDENT NAME & SURNAME: _____

CONTACTS: _____ EMAIL: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME & SURNAME: _____

FATHER OR MOTHER: _____

CONTACTS: _____ EMAIL: _____