

GRADS

Graduation, Reality And Dual-Role Skills (GRADS) is an in-school family and consumer sciences instructional and intervention program for pregnant and parenting teens. Grads instructors meet in a classroom setting with students weekly, providing information for students on prenatal health care, healthy lifestyle, positive parenting and employability. Instructors are available for private conferences with GRADS students as well as non-grads students. We also make home and hospital visits. GRADS instructors will help students make contact with community agencies that can provide helpful resources for young parents.

The goals of the GRADS program are:

- **to increase the likelihood that participants will remain in school during pregnancy and after childbirth and stay to the point of graduation**
- **to help participants carry out positive health care practices for themselves and their children in both prenatal and postnatal stages**
- **to provide participants with knowledge and skills related to child development and positive parenting practices**
- **to prepare participants for the world of work**
- **to encourage participants to set goals toward balancing work and family**
- **to reduce subsequent pregnancies before completion of educational process**

GRADS instructors teach classes at the CTC, Youth Connections and at 24 of our home schools. All home schools were offered the opportunity to have a GRADS program. Those who accepted the offer include:

Arcanum	Franklin Monroe	National Trail	Tri-Village
Ansonia	Jefferson	New Lebanon	Trotwood Madison
Bethel	Miami East	Northmont	Twin Valley South
Brookville	Miamisburg	Northridge	Valley View
Carlisle	Milton-Union	Preble Shawnee	Versailles
Eaton	Mississinawa	Tri-County North	West Carrollton
			Youth Connections

Instructors are also available for guest speaking to other classes and community groups. They also attend meetings throughout home school communities in order to maintain networking contacts which are helpful to students.

To reach a GRADS instructor, you may contact the Miami Valley Career Technology Center at 937-837-7781.

**AN
IN-SCHOOL
PROGRAM
FOR
PREGNANT
AND
PARENTING
TEENS**

GRADS programs are offered in high schools and middle schools throughout the state of Ohio. Coordination and leadership is provided through the Family and Consumer Science Section of the Ohio Career and Technical Education office and the Ohio Department of Education.

For further information,
contact:

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**GRADS
GRADUATION,
REALITY
AND
DUAL-ROLE
SKILLS**



GRADS Program Goals:

- Remain in school through graduation
- Appreciate the importance of prenatal care
- Learn practical parenting and child-development skills
- Gain orientation to work
- Set goals toward balancing work and family
- Encourage the delay of subsequent pregnancies until completion of educational process

What is GRADS?

GRADS is an in-school, secondary program for pregnant students and young parents (male and female). By using the Adolescent Parent Resource Guide, GRADS classes focus on knowledge and skills related to:

- **Positive Self**
 - Self formation
 - Communications
 - Relationships
 - Practical problem solving
 - Options and decisions
- **Pregnancy**
 - Wellness
 - Maternal and fetal dev.
 - Costs of parenthood
 - Labor and delivery
 - Postnatal care
- **Parenting**
 - Newborn expectations
 - Adjustments to parenting
 - Child development
 - Child care
 - Child abuse and neglect
- **Economic Independence**
 - Career exploration
 - Goal setting
 - Economic resources
 - Job search and application
 - Employability

GRADS students meet individually and in groups with the GRADS instructor in their school.

GRADS class offers an opportunity for pregnant students and young parents to share ideas, to gain confidence and support and to increase the likelihood that they will remain in school with little interruption until graduation



