

## **PREGNANCY POLICY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND WAIVER**

### **Policy for the Declared Pregnant Veterinary Technology Student**

The Veterinary Technology Program (VTP) of Inter American University of Puerto Rico-Guayama Campus (IAUPR-GC) strives to maintain a healthy and safe environment for its students. However, due to the nature of the Veterinary Technology Program and the activities conducted, all students could be exposed to possible hazards such as chemicals, inhalation of anesthetic gases, exposure to radiation, among others. While strict safety protocols have been established by the VTP, there still remains potential harm for a pregnant woman and her unborn baby.

If a VTP student becomes pregnant, or suspects that she is pregnant, she is responsible of notifying the Program Director immediately. Once she formally declares her pregnancy, the Program Director will advise her about the potential risks she will be exposed in the laboratory and clinical courses. While the VTP maintains confidentiality, certain personnel (instructors, Clinical Practice Coordinator) must be notified to best assure the student's safety. After the advising process, the pregnant students will be required to provide the following information: stage of pregnancy and intention of continuing in the program and/or returning at a later date. If the pregnant student decides to continue in the program, it is recommended that she seeks advise from her attending physician on the risks involved concerning continuing in the program. Also, a waiver must be submitted to the Director of the VTP.

I have received and read the above pregnancy policy, understand the content, and agree to comply with it, should I become pregnant during my completion of my degree in the Veterinary Technology Program.

I understand that it is my responsibility to report my pregnancy to the Program Director.

Name of the student: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the student: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Director of the Veterinary Technology Program: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Pregnancy Declaration Form and Waiver**

According to the IAUPR-GC Veterinary Technology Program, I \_\_\_\_\_,  
with student number \_\_\_\_\_, voluntarily declare my pregnancy on this date,  
\_\_\_\_\_, to the Program Director. My estimated due date is \_\_\_\_\_.

After receiving advising regarding the potential risks of continuing in the program,

\_\_\_ I have decided to continue in the program.

\_\_\_ I have decided to leave the program.

If the student decides to stay in the program, the VTP Director will advise the student about the following potential risks and preventive measures, such as not using radiology equipment in labs and clinical practice sites during the first trimester, nor cleaning the cat ward, or participating in anesthesia procedures, among others.

If the pregnant student decides not to continue in the program, she can formally request an incomplete (I) in the course(s).

- I understand that it is my responsibility to maintain an awareness of what may be potentially hazardous and to approach my instructor(s) if I am unsure.
- It will be my responsibility to discuss with my physician the potential risks to my unborn child and me, thus making the decision to complete the program while pregnant or to return at a later date.
- I accept the responsibility of understanding precautions necessary to decrease my risk and exposure. I will not hold the Veterinary Technology Program of Inter American University-Guayama Campus or its employees liable for any complications or adverse effects.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date