Information on maternity protection for pregnant women and nursing mothers

What does this mean for you?
- You will be granted maternity leave as a rule even without application.
- During the statutory maternity protection period, there is a relative ban on examinations. You thus have the right to abstain from taking examinations. The same applies to courses, internships, and excursions.
- If you waive maternity leave, you will be able to take examinations during your protection period.
- Naturally, during pregnancy you will be released from relevant examinations.
- If nursing mothers take part in courses with compulsory attendance (e.g. block seminars), it must always be possible for them to keep the breastfeeding times with their child.

What do you need to keep in mind?
In order to ensure the measures of the Maternity Protection Act can be implemented, you must inform the office listed below of your pregnancy.

Feel free to contact us for one-on-one advising!
We will provide you with additional information on your maternity protection rights and timeline for reporting your pregnancy. To determine the exact term of maternity protection, please bring a copy of your pregnancy record book or a medical certificate confirming the expected date of delivery.

Contact:
University of Bayreuth
Advising with regard to the implementation of the Maternity Protection Act
Division I/3
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A new Maternity Protection Act took effect on 01.01.2018. As of this date, you as a student enjoy full maternity protection if the location, time and schedule of a university course are specified as mandatory or you complete an internship as part of your university education (§ 1 para 2 number 8 MuSchG).

To sum up:
- Maternity leave generally begins 6 weeks before giving birth and ends 8 weeks after the birth.
- During this time, you don’t have to take any examinations.
- If you do want to take examinations, you will have to sign a waiver to be presented to the instructor on the day of the examination.
- You may also decide during an examination to make use of your maternity protection by withdrawing from that examination. The examination is then graded as “did not appear”.

(Waiver forms are available from the office below)