

Drug Free America Foundation, Inc. is excited to announce the launch of a new course in our educational portfolio titled

Reducing Marijuana Use During Pregnancy and Post-Partum.

Changing marijuana laws and increased access and availability of marijuana are having a significant impact on the number of people who use the drug in the United States. Substance use significantly impacts all areas of life and no race or economic class is immune to these impacts. A high-risk demographic is pregnant and postpartum women as marijuana use can have devastating impacts on a fetus and developing child. Doctors have linked marijuana use during pregnancy with an increased risk for pregnancy complications such as: low birth weight, premature birth, small head circumference, small length, and stillbirth. With the increased availability of high potent marijuana products, it is more important than ever that science-based educational campaigns on the impacts of use during and after pregnancy are available.

Our new educational course is aimed at individuals working with mothers and mothers-to-be, those working in the areas of substance abuse prevention, treatment, harm reduction and recovery, or anyone who wants to grow their knowledge in this area.

The course consists of interactive modules that cover marijuana's history and cultural aspects related to use, potency and diversity of products, marketing, safety concerns and the impacts of use on the mind and body, during pregnancy and while breastfeeding. The course includes pre and post tests. Individuals will receive a certificate upon completion.

Course Learning Objectives:

- Review the history and evolution of the cannabis plant and modern policy trends.
- Identify new trends in use, potency, products and marketing practices that make women vulnerable to marijuana use.
- Discuss the endocannabinoid system and the relationship between marijuana and the impact on the female body and mind.
- Review current research pertaining to addiction and parenting and effective ways to communicate safety and deterrence.



This professional development course is free to all Florida-based individuals and can be accessed at the following link:

<https://lms.preventionmastery.com/self-signup> using the code: **DFAF_FL-MJ23**

Once registered, your course pass will be valid for 14 days.

