



# Taxes now removed on feminine hygiene, family care items

By **Julissa Torres**  
Multimedia Journalist

As of Sept. 1, people in the state of Texas are no longer required to pay taxes imposed on feminine hygiene products such as menstrual pads, cups and tampons. Not only are women benefited by this law but also households will be saving tax money on family care items like baby and adult diapers, baby wipes/bottles, maternity clothing, and milk pumps.

Moriah Stitt, a freshman at TJC, addresses how this helps college students by saying, "that's going to help because I feel like besides there being like a lot of single mothers babies are a lot to take care of. So I feel like we should be able to buy it without having

any taxes on it because we're taking care of them and building up our population."

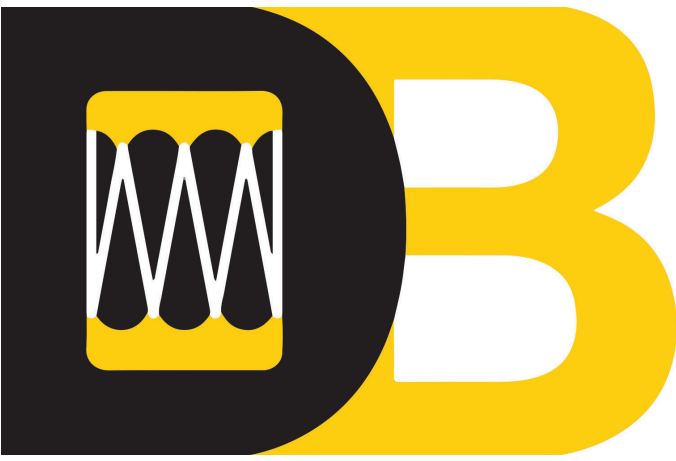
As Stitt explains, not having to pay taxes for such substantial products will help single mothers to properly care for their children without having to worry so much about spending too much on their necessities.

The following products are part of this law and are not being taxed: tampons, sanitary napkins, menstrual sponges/pads, maternity clothes, baby and adult diapers, nursing bra/pad, baby wipes, baby bottles, and breast milk pumping products.

An article published by College Simply titled "Tyler Junior College Diversity and Demographics" shows

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Photo illustration by Cashlin Dwyer  
Feminine products no longer taxed starting Sept. 1.



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# The DrumBeat

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Photo by Cashlin Dwyer  
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No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

- Education Amendment of 1972

# Title IX staff members offer support to students affected by sexual misconduct

By **Cashlin Dwyer**  
Multimedia Journalist

Tyler Junior College's Title IX office is a student resource where staff members deal with issues concerning sexual assault and harassment, rape, stalking, and dating violence.

"It's really to ensure just that there's a safe environment for everyone to come. They have one purpose, to come receive their higher education and to be in a safe environment," said Jacqueline Lozano from TJC's Employee and Organizational Development Office. Lozano is approaching her one-year mark as TJC's Title IX coordinator, and educating students on Title IX and how to stay safe is what she and Tiffany Perez, also with the Title IX office, plan to do with their roles.

In compliance with the Clery Act, TJC publishes annual Campus and Fire Safety Reports at TJC's website. The Clery Act, signed in 1990, requires college campuses to document and report all crimes associated with the particular college campus. As of the 2022 report, in 2021 TJC had two reported accounts of dating violence, one account of domestic violence, one account of fondling, and three accounts of rape on TJC's main campus. The next Clery Report will be available sometime by Oct. 1.

"We want to make sure that [students] feel safe at all times. So, you know, that the Title IX team is here for support and assistance in the complaint process or even

to just answer general questions, even when they're not sure," Lozano said.

Title IX is part of the Education Amendments of 1972 that states, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

Title IX is not just a campus resource but a student resource, if a student is experiencing issues outside of TJC's campus, say sexual assault or another offense is occurring at a student's home or at an off-campus function, the Title IX team is there to help them.

"We can talk it out with them and let them know, OK, you know, we need to get the local police authorities involved, who do they need to reach out to if it's not specifically Title IX for the school, general counseling services, putting them in touch with counseling," Lozano said.

If a student comes in with an incident that happened off campus the Title IX office is able to work through campus police to get a report to the respected local authorities.

"It's our student. It's our current student, and we definitely want to provide them with resources and take down the information," Lozano said.

There are a few different ways a student could report an offense. For example, students can file a report online

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Criminal Offense Reporting	Year	TJC Main Campus			
		On-Campus Property	On-Campus Student Housing Facilities	Non-Campus Property	Public Property
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
	2019	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
	2019	0	0	0	0
Rape	2021	3	3	0	0
	2020	2	2	0	0
	2019	0	0	0	0
Fondling	2021	1	1	0	0
	2020	1	1	0	0
	2019	1	0	0	0
Incest	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
	2019	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2021	0	0	0	0
	2020	0	0	0	0
	2019	0	0	0	0

Graphic from the 2022 Annual Campus and Fire Safety Report  
The above data shows reported crimes and offenses on TJC's main campus 2019-21. To review the full report, visit Clery Reports on the TJC website.



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