

Cornell University Child Care Grant Subsidy for Undergraduate & Graduate/Professional Students

Funding Period September 2009 – August 2010

Information and Eligibility Guidelines

History of the Cornell University Child Care Grant Subsidy Program

In 1991, Cornell University's Task Force for Working Families recommended providing financial assistance to Cornell faculty, staff and students with child care expenses. Based on this recommendation, the Division of Human Resources and the President's council of Cornell Women, in conjunction with the Day Care and Child Development Council of Tompkins County, began researching options for providing this assistance. In December of 2000, then President Hunter Rawlings III announced the implementation of the child care grant subsidy program for faculty and staff. In the spring of 2004, Provost Biddy Martin, in conjunction with Dean Alison "Sunny" Power, established funding for a child care grant program for all students with child care expenses. The objective is to make the grant subsidy available to as many Cornell students with child care expenses as possible.

How Does the Program Work?

Cornell University's Child Care Grant Subsidy Program for Students is designed to assist Cornell University students with covering the costs of eligible child care, including infant and toddler child care, pre-school/pre-k day care, holidays for school age children, summer camp programs for school age children, and before/after school care. Students can receive a *taxable* grant subsidy each year based on annual household income and the age of child(ren) in care.

Flat rate awards will be made to all applicants who meet the eligibility criteria, in the amounts of

1. Infant/Toddler/Preschool award is \$1,500/child for 2009-2010.
2. School-Age award is \$750/child for 2009-2010.

Who is eligible?

Note: If your spouse or partner is employed by Cornell as a benefits-eligible employee, you are not eligible for the student grant. If you are interested in a grant, please apply for the faculty/staff grant program.

To be considered for the child care grant subsidy for students, you must meet the following criteria:

1. Be enrolled as a full-time student in a Cornell University degree program at the undergraduate, graduate, or professional level. Students who are not enrolled full-time, but are actively pursuing research or completing a dissertation, may be eligible for the grant if their academic pursuit equates to at least half-time enrollment.
2. Be the custodial parent or legal guardian of a child 12 years or younger (or older, if the child has disability-related special needs), or will be adding a child to your family (through birth or adoption) during the academic year and you are financially responsible for the child.
3. Be unmarried or, have a spouse/partner who is:

- a. Employed and/or enrolled in an educational program full-time or
 - b. Considered legally disabled
4. Demonstrate financial need for this subsidy.
 5. Utilize child care services to pursue your educational program.
 6. Incur child care expenses from services that are defined as legal care.

Note: Legal care is defined as care where you are paying the provider and the provider is claiming that income on their US/NYS taxes.

How Do I Apply for the Grant Subsidy Program?

Applications for the 2009-2010 academic year program are available September 15, 2009. You apply one time for the entire grant period, September 2009-August 2010

Deadline: October 16, 2009, 4 pm. Award Notification: December 1, 2009.

Applications can be found online at <http://studentparents.dos.cornell.edu/>

Notification will be made via email to the Cornell net id of the applicant on December 2, 2009.

Once approved, students will either receive a credit on their Bursar account or receive a check. It may take 6 weeks to complete the entire awards process.

To apply:

- Fill out application completely
- Attach FAFSA worksheet or
- Attest that current FAFSA is on file with Cornell University
- Have legal child care provider sign and include child care provider information
- International Students: Complete a "Foreign National Questionnaire" at http://www.payments.cornell.edu/Foreign_Nationals.cfm and submit to: Tax Compliance Office, 377 Pine Tree Road, Ithaca, NY 14853.
- Make copy of complete application for your records

Submit via U.S. Mail, or hand deliver **Before 4:00 pm on Friday October 16, 2009.** to:
Cornell Child Care Grant Subsidy Program for Students
Cornell University
350 Caldwell Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853

Please affix the proper postage amount due in order for your application to arrive in time for consideration.