Cornell University
Student Child Care Grant Program COVID-19 Hardship Fund
Summer 2020

Cornell undergraduate, graduate and professional students are eligible to apply.

Background Information
In 2004, Cornell University became one of the first universities in the nation to offer a child care grant for student-parents. Since then, the objective of the Cornell Student Child Care Grant remains the same: to provide financial assistance to as many Cornell students with child care expenses as possible. The program assists Cornell students by subsidizing some of the eligible costs associated with childcare, including infant and toddler child care, pre-school/pre-k day care, summer care programs, and before/after school care. In 2015, Cornell made a significant investment in our student-parent community by contributing $350K to be awarded annually as Student Child Care Grants. Because of the COVID-19 impact to our student-parent community, a one-time adjustment has been made to modify the Summer Care Grant Program 2020 to support the Student Child Care Grant Program COVID-19 Hardship Fund.

New in Summer 2020
With the onset of COVID-19 and the academic, financial, and family disruptions that have been experienced by all our students, Cornell is particularly concerned about the financial impact COVID-19 has on our student-parent community, along with their ability to continue performing the high level of research, teaching and academic rigor that is expected of them. In order for Cornell to be responsive to the financial needs of our student-parent community in light of COVID-19, we have created this one-time Student Child Care Grant Program COVID-19 Hardship Fund for June 2020.

How it Works
Given the unique experience of the pandemic, all Cornell student-parents experiencing financial hardship because of COVID-19 are invited to apply. Eligible student-parents will receive a taxable grant from the Student Child Care Grant Program COVID-19 Hardship Fund based on availability and amount of grant funds available and the number of eligible applications submitted. It is estimated that individual award amounts will be $750.

Eligibility Requirements
Eligibility requirements to be considered for the Student Child Care Grant Program COVID-19 Hardship Fund 2020 include...

1. All Cornell student-parents are eligible to receive the Student Child Care Grant Program COVID-19 Hardship Fund 2020.
   a. Student-parents who received a Cornell Student Child Care Grant award in Fall 2019 or Spring 2020 are eligible to receive this award.
2. The student-parent must be enrolled as a full-time student in a Cornell degree program at the undergraduate, graduate, or professional level during the 2020 Summer Session. Students who are not enrolled full-time, but will be actively pursuing research, academic efforts, clinical responsibilities, writing a thesis/dissertation, may still apply, but must include with the application a statement about academic progress expectations.

3. The student-parent must be the custodial parent or legal guardian of a child 13 years or younger (or older, if the child has disability-related special needs) during the summer 2020 session.

4. There is no income cap requirement to participate in this program.

5. There is no requirement that the spouse/partner be engaged in activity outside of the home (i.e. work, student or volunteer).

6. Awards will not exceed $750. In the spirit of meeting the objective of serving as many Cornell student-parents, and given the finite pool of funds available, awards will be made to all applicants who meet the eligibility criteria though the amount awarded may be less than the maximum indicated depending on the number of eligible students.

7. Every student-parent will need to answer the following:
   a. Describe how COVID-19 has financially impacted your role as a student-parent?
   b. How will these funds be used to better support your role as a student-parent?

8. Student-parents who have incurred additional costs as a result of the spouse/partner working as an essential healthcare worker who must be separated from the student-parent and their child, or have a spouse/partner or child who has been afflicted with COVID-19 may be eligible for additional financial support. If this represents your situation, please provide a brief explanation along with an amount you are seeking reimbursement for.

9. Student-parents who are a single parent or have a child with a disability will qualify for an additional $200.

10. If you received a student loan during 2019-20, this award may impact your student loan eligibility.

**How Do I Apply for the Student Child Care Summer Grant Program?**

Applications are available June 1, 2020. The deadline for application is Monday, June 15 at 3:00 pm. Award notification will be made via email by June 22. Once applications are approved, students will receive an email and credit on their Bursar account. It may take up to 6 weeks to complete the process.

Applying for the Student Child Care Grant Program COVID-19 Hardship Fund is easy. Electronic applications, via Qualtrics, is available: [https://cornell.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bJdtlxvASyYpo1](https://cornell.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bJdtlxvASyYpo1)

If you have any questions or concerns about the Student Child Care Program COVID-19 Hardship Fund, please contact Marie Roller at mr36@cornell.edu or Assistant Dean / Care and Crisis Services, JoAnn Molnar-Kieffer at jb58@cornell.edu.