**FAMILIES MATTER**

A Resource Guide for Graduate Student Parents

About one in ten of Berkeley's graduate population is a student parent. UC Berkeley recognizes that a family-friendly academic culture is essential to the success and well-being of all students, faculty, and staff. The University is committed to supporting policies, programs, and services to help graduate student parents meet their family care obligations while they pursue their academic goals.

This brochure offers an overview of resources to help graduate students balance academic and family responsibilities.

**QUESTIONS?**

The Graduate Division is here to help. After consulting your departmental Graduate Student Advisor, and checking out these resources, if you have more questions or need assistance, contact:

**The Office of the Dean of the Graduate Division**

424 Sproul Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720-5900
Phone: (510) 642-5472

**grad.berkeley.edu**

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ACADEMIC POLICIES
The Graduate Council of the Academic Senate supports academic accommodations for graduate students with substantial parenting responsibilities, including (when applicable) extension of time for academic milestones.
grad.berkeley.edu/policy/degrees-policy/#f51-graduate-council-student-parent-policies

CHILD CARE
THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM (ECEP)
ECEP offers spaces for children (3 months to 5 years) of student parents. A high quality curriculum coupled with experienced and passionate teachers creates a nurturing and supportive environment for UC Berkeley’s youngest students. ECEP’s goal is to help student parents balance school, work, and family. We reserve a number of spaces for the children of student parents, and provide subsidies to qualified parents. To qualify for a reserved space or subsidy, one parent must be a registered UC Berkeley student. Enrollment is limited and cannot be guaranteed, so apply as early as possible.
2339 Haste Street
Phone: (510) 642-1827
Email: ecep@berkeley.edu
ece.berkeley.edu

EMERGENCY BACK-UP CHILD CARE
Parents who are currently registered UCB students are eligible for up to 60 hours per year of highly-subsidized back-up child care from a leading nationwide provider of care services (on a first-come, first-served basis). This back-up program helps student parents when their regular child care arrangements are unavailable and they need to attend to academic responsibilities on campus, at home, or away.
backupchildcare.berkeley.edu

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES (UHS)
INSURANCE ADVICE FOR STUDENTS WITH DEPENDENTS
University Health Services (UHS) can help you learn about, and get connected to, health coverage for your family. Families have a choice of health insurance plans, including marketplace exchange plans (federal and state such as Covered California), individual commercial insurance plans, publicly supported plans, and non-profit community-based plans. Contact the free Student Insurance Helpline provided by the insurance broker.
(800) 853-5899
uhs.berkeley.edu/students/insurance/InsuranceHelpline.shtml

BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT PROGRAM
The Health*Matters program of University Health Services sponsors lactation rooms at more than a half-dozen locations on campus and offers information and classes on breastfeeding, discounts on personal electric breast pumps, and supportive counseling.
University Health Services, Tang Center
2222 Bancroft Way, 3rd floor, Phone: (510) 643-4646
Email: hmatters@uhs.berkeley.edu
uhs.berkeley.edu/facstaff/healthmatters/breastfeeding.shtml

FINANCIAL AID
GRADUATE STUDENT PARENT GRANT
Registered graduate student parents (single or married) with dependent children may apply for a need-based award funded by the Graduate Division. This grant may be used for expenses such as housing, dependent health insurance, child care, and/or fee and tuition costs. For more information and applications, see:
grad.berkeley.edu/financial/families

CHILDBIRTH ACCOMMODATION FUNDING
Women doctoral students in good academic standing who hold a fellowship or GSI or GSR appointment, and who expect to give birth during the Fall or Spring semesters, can be excused from regular duties for a period of six weeks without loss of financial support. For more information and application, see:
grad.berkeley.edu/wp-content/uploads/childbirth_accommodation_form.pdf

REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM FOR GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCHERS
Reimbursement for child care expenses is available to eligible GSIs for expenses incurred during the regular academic terms (Fall and Spring semesters) and Summer Session appointments. For more information, see link to application at:
grad.berkeley.edu/financial/families

REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM FOR ACADEMIC STUDENT EMPLOYEES (GSIs, READERS, TUTORS)
Reimbursement for child care expenses is available to eligible Academic Student Employees (ASEs) as governed by the current UAW contract.
ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/labor/bargaining-units/bx/contract.html

FAMILY-RELATED ASE CONTRACT POLICIES
Academic Student Employees (ASEs) are eligible for certain parental leave policies governed by the UAW contract.
ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/labor/bargaining-units/bx/contract.html