

Guidelines for childcare funds:

The Department is pleased to announce the availability of funds to help defray the cost of childcare and/or medical insurance premiums for dependent children of enrolled graduate students.

To apply for these funds, parents should make two applications, one in May for the summer term, and one in early September for the Fall, Winter, and Spring terms. In each case you will use the accompanying form to indicate the amount of projected uncompensated daycare expenses and medical insurance premiums for the relevant period to the department, with a brief explanation of how and where they will be spent. The form for Summer 2021 should be submitted to Doug Myers with a cc to the grad advisors Sherri Roush and Barbara Herman by **June 1, 2021**. (The form for the rest of the year will be due September 3, 2021.) If significant unanticipated increases or reductions in expenses arise during the year that were not reflected in your request, please submit an updated request before the next term to Doug and the graduate advisors.

Ordinarily, to be eligible for this program, students must be in good standing, as well as enrolled and in residence during the academic year. Exceptions may be made, by petition, for brief interruptions in student status, so as not to interrupt settled daycare arrangements. Students are eligible for this program through their 7th year; petitions for exceptions should be submitted to the graduate advisor(s).

The dispersal of funds for this program is tied to fiscal year, which begins on July 1. For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, funds will be dispersed **four times**, once on July 1 to cover the summer term, and then at the beginning of each of the three academic quarters. Note that, for lack of a better word, we are calling the units of time which the dispersals are intended to cover '**terms**.'

For the 2021-2022 fiscal year, the limit on these funds will be \$2,250 per term per child and \$4,500 per term per family. While we do not anticipate any problems, given the uncertain times and the fact that this is departmental funding, it is worth underscoring that all dispersal of funds is contingent upon the financial circumstances at the time permitting this dispersal.

It is essential to keep in mind the Graduate Division's Childcare Reimbursement program: (<https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/working-at-ucla/childcare-reimbursement-program/>). In your statement to the department, you need to take these resources into account first, before determining the uncompensated balance, in order for the statement to be in good order.

Since the money will be dispersed as fellowship, it will be taxable. Students may be eligible to enroll in a Dependent Care spending account which may reduce their tax liability on dependent care expenses (<https://ucnet.universityofcalifornia.edu/compensation-and-benefits/other-benefits/flexible-spending-accounts/ase-depcare/index.html>).