

1 **:RESOLUTION 2021-005**

2 A RESOLUTION FOR CHILD CARE AND DEPENDENT ASSISTANCE FOR ALL GRADUATE  
3 STUDENTS

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5 Deas.17; Robert Dahlberg-Sears.1, Delegate, Music; John Bundschuh.8, Delegate, East Asian Languages &  
6 Literature; Steph Charlies.211, Delegate, Educational Studies  
7 Sponsor: Executive Committee  
8

9 WHEREAS the Council of Graduate Students (CGS) is the representative body of all graduate students enrolled  
10 at The Ohio State University as established by Article II Section 1 of the CGS Constitution; and  
11

12 WHEREAS the Council of Graduate Students or its appointed representative(s) have the power to act as an  
13 advisory agent on behalf of graduate students on all matters brought before personnel, committees, or agencies of  
14 The Ohio State University involving the interest of graduate students as established in Article III Section 3 of the  
15 CGS Constitution; and  
16

17 WHEREAS the current grant-funded child-care assistance program at Ohio State (Child Care Assistance Means  
18 Parents in School, CCAMPIS) prioritizes undergraduate students, leaving graduate students to be considered only  
19 if funding is available<sup>1</sup>; and  
20

21 WHEREAS only U.S. citizens or permanent residents are eligible for CCAMPIS, thus excluding international  
22 students from access to childcare funds<sup>1</sup>; and  
23

24 WHEREAS the number of graduate students care providers (including students who have a partner or dependant  
25 with disabilities) is unknown due to the failure of the university to collect such data; and  
26

27 WHEREAS, according to communication with Assistant Vice Provost of Diversity and Inclusion, Dr. Jacquelyn  
28 C.A. Meshelemiah, a survey conducted by The Office of Student Life in 2018 reported that 16.3% of graduate  
29 students (74 out of 454 respondents) reported being financially responsible for dependent children; and  
30

31 WHEREAS the CGS demographic report for the 2019-2020 academic year showed that 10% of the delegate body  
32 had children<sup>2</sup>; and  
33

34 WHEREAS, as of September 16, 2020, according to communication from Interim Chief of Human Resources  
35 Officer, Kimberly Shumate, JD, 98 graduate students requested childcare-related accommodations due to  
36 COVID-19, totaling 14% of all requests; and  
37

38 WHEREAS the current minimum GA stipend is \$17,280/year; and  
39

40 WHEREAS the cost of full-time childcare tuition for an infant at Ohio State's Child Care Program is \$215/week,  
41 meaning that a one-income household is spending 65% of its income on childcare<sup>3</sup>; and  
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<sup>1</sup> <https://odi.osu.edu/ccampis>

<sup>2</sup> <https://cgs.osu.edu/posts/documents/demographic-report-3.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Tuition at the Ohio State Child Care Program is calculated on a sliding scale based on the family's household income, the number of days enrolled, and the age group of the child. The tuition scale can be found here: <https://hr.osu.edu/wp-content/uploads/ccp-tuition-schedule.pdf>

43 WHEREAS childcare tuition is even more expensive at the other centers run by Ohio State, the Nisonger Center  
44 and the Schoenbaum Family Center<sup>4</sup>; and  
45  
46 WHEREAS not all graduate students receive a Graduate Associateship position and may actually have a lower  
47 income than the minimum stipend; and  
48  
49 WHEREAS, as per communication with Don Fuzer, director of the Ohio State Child Care Program, the center  
50 does not reserve slots for graduate students and has a waitlist time of approximately 15-18 months, with an  
51 average waitlist of 600-700 children a year; and  
52  
53 WHEREAS having childcare and dependent assistance will encourage graduate students to choose consistent and  
54 high-quality care for their dependents and enable them to complete their degrees in a timely manner; and  
55  
56 WHEREAS childcare and dependent assistance will allow graduate student to better focus attention on both  
57 familial and academic responsibilities, such as participating in conferences and other professional development  
58 events, and devoting time to their research; and  
59  
60 WHEREAS offering childcare and dependent assistance aligns with Ohio State's values of supporting  
61 underrepresented students through diversity, inclusion, access, and affordability<sup>5</sup>; and  
62  
63 WHEREAS when compared to comparable institutions, Ohio State falls behind in offering childcare assistance  
64 to its graduate and professional students<sup>6</sup>.  
65  
66 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of Graduate Students advocates that The Ohio State  
67 University establishes financial assistance funds to cover childcare and dependent care costs for its domestic and  
68 international graduate students; and  
69  
70 BE IT BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these financial assistance funds be in an amount competitive to  
71 benchmark institutions child or dependent, and also cover expenses incurred as a result of academic and  
72 professional pursuits such as conference participation (travel or virtual), other professional development events,  
73 and fieldwork; and  
74  
75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the maximum age of the child should be in accordance with where the student  
76 parent and their child live and that state's regulations about what age a child can be left alone at home<sup>7</sup>; and  
77  
78 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that assistance should be based on financial need and open to all graduate  
79 students regardless of household income, with preference given to households with incomes less than \$75,000;  
80 and  
81 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of Graduate Students encourages Ohio State's Child Care  
82 Program to increase the capacity of the center to meet the need; and  
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<sup>4</sup> Tuition for an infant at Nisonger center is \$315/week (<https://nisonger.osu.edu/clinics-services/child/early-childhood-education-programs/prospective-parents/>), and at Shoenbaum Family Center tuition for an infant is \$1,146/month (<https://earlychildhood.ehe.osu.edu/school/tuition/>)

<sup>5</sup> Research shows students of color are more likely to be student parents than their White or Asian counterparts (cf. Miller, K., Gault, B., Thorman, A.; 2011).

<sup>6</sup> Check Appendix for details.

<sup>7</sup> If the state does not stipulate an age, such as is the case in Ohio, the maximum age of a child should be 12 years old.

84 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of Graduate Students encourages Ohio State's Child Care  
85 Program set aside at least one third of their slots per year for student parents, with the remaining slots filled by  
86 children of faculty and staff; and

87

88 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that assistance for childcare not be limited to centers run by The Ohio State  
89 University; and

90

91 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of Graduate Students advises the university to create a paid leave  
92 fund to cover expenses and care related to childbirth and family illness; and

93

94 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of Graduate encourages the Graduate School to establish a  
95 dependent care fellowship to relieve students from their GAsip duties and allow them to have the ability to  
96 pursue academic research while caring for their dependents; and

97

98 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Council of Graduate Students directs its President, Vice President, and  
99 Chief of Staff to distribute this resolution to all proper leadership and authorities of The Ohio State University  
100 and its partners.

101

102 Approved: Yes/No

103

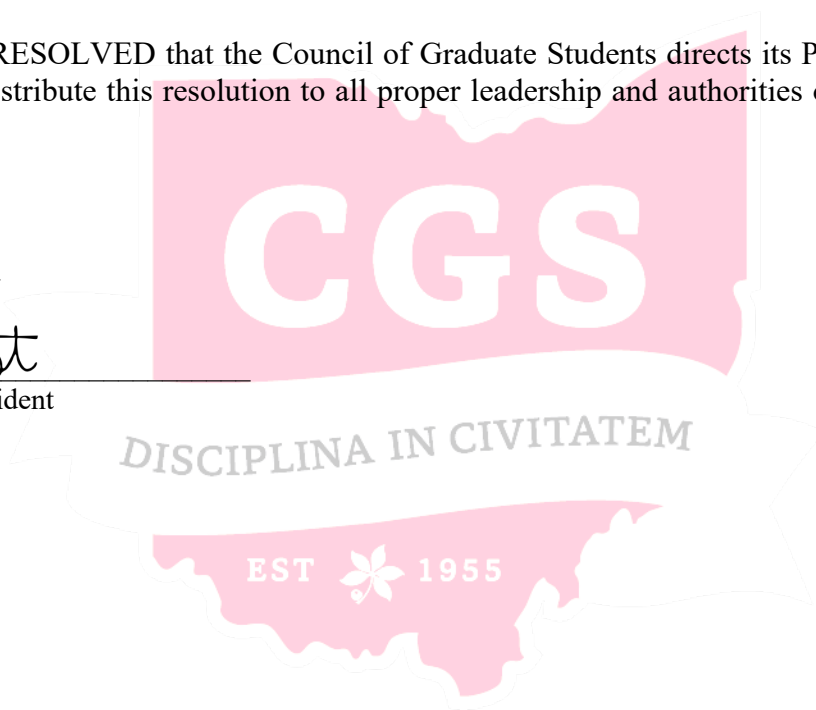
104 Date: \_\_10/2/20\_\_

105

106

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108 Stephen J. Post  
Stephen J. Post, President



Council of Graduate Students  
at The Ohio State University

1 APPENDIX  
2 CHILD CARE AND DEPENDENT ASSISTANCE - COMPARABLE INSTITUTIONS  
3

4 The following institutions offer different types of childcare and dependent assistance, as can be seen below:  
5

6 The UCLA Graduate Education has a donor-funded scholarship for students with dependents of up to \$5,000<sup>8</sup>.  
7

8 The University of Michigan offers multiple kinds of assistance: The Rackham Graduate School offers a  
9 \$750/year grant for graduate students traveling with children under the age of 6 to attend conferences,  
10 workshops, meetings, or other academic events to cover the costs of transporting the dependent<sup>9</sup>. The University  
11 of Michigan also offers childcare subsidies for children up to 12 years old, offering up to \$3,028 for one child,  
12 \$4,439 for two children, and \$5,852 for three or more children per semester<sup>10</sup>.  
13

14 Michigan State University also offers different types of assistance: The College of Engineering has a one-time  
15 \$2,000 grant to assist in childcare costs for those with children 0-12 months<sup>11</sup>. Michigan State University also  
16 offers domestic students a childcare grant of \$1,000 per child per semester to cover childcare costs<sup>12</sup>. In  
17 addition, the graduate student government at Michigan State University offers \$500-\$1000 per semester to  
18 students who are not eligible for the MSU Child Care Grant (mostly international students)<sup>13</sup>.  
19

20 The University of Minnesota-Twin Cities has a childcare assistance grant of \$1,500 per semester<sup>14</sup>.  
21

22 Pennsylvania State University has a subsidy program through CCAMPIS and student fees; the amount awarded  
23 depends on numerous factors (income, number of children, ages, etc.), but covers up to 75% of childcare costs  
24 for full-time students<sup>15</sup>.  
25

26 The University of Washington offers childcare assistance of up to \$2,700 per quarter<sup>16</sup>.  
27

28 The University of Wisconsin-Madison has a childcare tuition assistance program that usually covers 30-40% of  
29 childcare costs per term<sup>17</sup>.  
30

31 The University of Arizona offers childcare subsidies of up to \$2,000 per year per household for children 0-12  
32 years old<sup>18</sup>.  
33

34 The University of Iowa has a childcare subsidy program for students of up to \$340-\$120 (depending on age of  
35 child) per month per household<sup>19</sup>.  
36

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<sup>8</sup> <https://grad.ucla.edu/funding/#/view-record/997/0>

<sup>9</sup> <https://rackham.umich.edu/funding/funding-types/graduate-student-professional-travel-with-children-grant/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://finaid.umich.edu/child-care-subsidy/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.egr.msu.edu/graduate/childcare-grant> \

<sup>12</sup> <https://finaid.msu.edu/ccgrant.asp>

<sup>13</sup> <https://cogs.msu.edu/resources/funding/cogs-childcare-endowment/>

<sup>14</sup> <http://sphc.umn.edu/graduatepro-child-care-assistance-and-other-services>

<sup>15</sup> <https://hr.psu.edu/child-care-subsidy>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.washington.edu/financialaid/types-of-aid/child-care-assistance/>

<sup>17</sup> <https://ocfr.wisc.edu/financial-assistance/uw-madison-students/child-care-tuition-assistance-program-cctap/>

<sup>18</sup> <https://lifework.arizona.edu/programs/childcare-choice/student>

<sup>19</sup> <https://hr.uiowa.edu/well-being/family-services/child-care/student-parent-resources/subsidy-program-student-families>

37 At Purdue University, the graduate student government offers grants of up to \$1,000 per household per semester  
38 for children 12 and under<sup>20</sup>.



## Council of Graduate Students at The Ohio State University

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<sup>20</sup> <https://www.purduegradstudents.com/child-care-grants> ; for reference, there is a range of 23-42 applicants per semester, and eleven \$1,000 awards are granted per semester.