Graduate Student Child Care Tuition Assistance Program

General information:

Georgia Tech offers a Child Care Tuition Assistance Program for graduate students with children ages six weeks to four years of age. This program is designed to provide an opportunity for these children to attend an affordable, high-quality child care program, and to make it more accessible to the children of our graduate students. Parents can apply for a limited number of spots that have reduced tuition rates through a monthly stipend provided by Georgia Tech.

Location:

Child care is provided at The Children's Campus @ Georgia Tech (TCC).

Eligibility Policy:

- This program is only available to full-time graduate students whose child is enrolled full time at TCC in any age group except Georgia Pre-K (a free, state-funded program). If funding is available, limited support could also be provided for a child enrolled in Pre-K, such as the monthly meal fee which is not covered by the state-funded program.
- Only one subsidized spot will be awarded per household (stipend will apply to highest tuition), unless there is sufficient funding to accommodate more children from one family.
- Priority will be determined on a first-come, first-served basis. The child must first be placed on the TCC waitlist and be offered a spot at the center before being considered to receive a subsidized spot.
- In addition to being on the TCC waitlist, applicants must also submit an application for the tuition assistance program.
- The minimum amount of assistance will be a monthly stipend that covers 50% of the full tuition rate for the child's age group. If funds are available, the stipend may be increased for a set period of time (which will be communicated to the parent) after which funding availability will be reassessed and the stipend may drop back to 50%. Stipend amounts will be reassessed twice each year and may change on January 1 and August 1.
- The stipend will be provided for up to one year and will coincide with Georgia Tech's academic year, August 1 through July 31. By May 1, the parent must re-apply for the next academic year by submitting a new application.
- If a child is already enrolled in a subsidized spot at TCC **AND** the parent will remain a full-time graduate student **AND** funding remains available, the graduate student will continue to receive a monthly stipend that covers at least 50% of the full tuition rate for their child's age group for the next academic year.

Terms of Assistance & Application Procedures:

Any full-time graduate student may apply for child care tuition assistance by being added to the TCC waitlist and submitting a completed, signed application to the Child Care Tuition Assistance Committee ("the Committee"). Contact TCC to inquire about the waitlist at 404-385-2248 or gtchildrenscampus@brighthorizons.com or visit the Family Information Center at familyinfocenter.brighthorizons.com to complete an enrollment request with the requested enrollment date.

- If a graduate student has just been admitted to Georgia Tech, they may apply for child care tuition assistance to begin on the first of the month in which they will be starting classes as a full-time student (they also need to request to be added to the TCC waitlist).
- For currently enrolled children, applications are due by May 1 for the next academic year starting on August 1. The parent will be notified by May 15 indicating if the child care tuition assistance will continue the following academic year, and they will be notified by July 1 of the amount of the monthly stipend that will be effective August 1 December 31 (minimum 50% of the full tuition rate). Funding availability will be reassessed again at the end of the fall semester, and parents of enrolled children will be notified by December 1 of the monthly stipend amount that will be effective January 1 July 31.
- Applications may also be considered at different times of the year on a case-by-case basis if the child on the waitlist is offered a spot at TCC. The tuition stipend granted for these applications will be granted only through July 31. The parent must apply again for the following academic year.
- Any tuition assistance recipient must report to the Committee if their qualifying status as a graduate student enrolled full time changes within thirty (30) days of this change (this does not include breaks between semesters or the summer semester if the parent is returning in the fall as a full-time student). Failure to communicate this change in status will result in the applicant's forfeiture of assistance and will obligate the parent to repay the Institute for any assistance received during the period in question.
- During the summer semester (May July), the student must be enrolled in a minimum of 3 credit hours in order to maintain their stipend.
- When notified of a status change (or anticipated status change) the Committee will consider a temporary exception to the full-time enrollment requirement on a case-by-case basis (e.g. the grad student withdrew from one or more classes in the middle of the semester and is now under the 12 credit hour requirement to be considered enrolled full time; or the grad student plans to enroll in fewer than 12 credit hours in their semester of graduation, etc.).
- The monthly stipend will be paid to the student account by the Office of Scholarships & Financial Aid.
- The total amount of the stipend received will be treated as taxable income by Georgia Tech.
- All questions or concerns regarding the child care tuition assistance program should be directed to the Committee at: <u>ask.aux@gatech.edu</u>.