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| <b>Date of Meeting:</b> | February 4, 2026                   |
| <b>Ruling:</b>          | Constitutional without reservation |

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**PURDUE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE**

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**BILL No. SP26-B001**

**Reinstating the Purdue Graduate Student Childcare Grant**

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**Author(s):** Shalom Kpetsu  
**Sponsor(s):** Don Terry-Veal

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**WHEREAS**, the Purdue Graduate Student Childcare Grant was established in 2013 to support graduate students who shoulder the high cost of childcare while pursuing their academic and research responsibilities;

**WHEREAS**, the grant served student parents for ten years before its discontinuation in 2023 after the Division of Financial Aid was no longer able to continue reviewing applications, leaving a noticeable gap in support for graduate students with dependents; and

**WHEREAS**, childcare expenses have continued to rise, and the lack of a student-governed childcare support mechanism places sustained financial strain on graduate students who already operate within tight and often inflexible budgets; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the three childcare centers located on campus is scheduled to close in April, reducing available childcare capacity and placing additional pressure on the remaining on campus childcare centers for graduate student families; and

**WHEREAS**, access to reliable childcare is directly tied to academic performance, research productivity and student well-being, and the absence of such support disproportionately affects a vulnerable segment of the graduate student body; and

**WHEREAS**, restoring this grant with a dedicated annual allocation strengthens GRAC's ability to support students facing unavoidable, high-impact personal expenses.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED**, that the Graduate Student Senate formally reinstates the Purdue Graduate Student Childcare Grant with the initial fund of \$20,000,


**Reinstating the Purdue Graduate Student Childcare Grant**


effective at the start of the 2026-2027 academic year; authorizing GRAC to administer these funds; and


**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** that the Grant Review and Allocation Committee shall continue to employ transparent, blind review procedures and standardized documentation requirements to ensure fairness, clarity and accountability in awarding Childcare Grant funds; and


**BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** that the Public Relations Officer will publicize the reinstated Childcare Grant and updated GRAC funding opportunities to the graduate student community and ensure that application information remains easily accessible.


**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ENACTED** 25<sup>th</sup> day of *February* 2026.

Signed by:  
  
FCA496B9514448A...  
Shalom Kpetsu  
President, PGSG

Signed by:  
  
D219D4712740467...  
Ethan Johnson  
Senate Chair, PGSS

Signed by:  
  
DE2A2E431EF84B9...  
Ayooluwa Ojo  
Parliamentarian, PGSG

Signed by:  
  
FCA496B9514448A...  
Shalom Kpetsu  
Author

Signed by:  
  
9C3071EBB7614B0...  
Don Terry-Veal  
Floor Sponsor, Senator for  
Aeronautics and Astronautics  
Engineering

## Certification


I, Abigayl Novak, Senate Clerk of the Purdue Graduate Student Senate, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was regularly passed and adopted by the Purdue Graduate Student Senate of Purdue University, at a regular meeting thereof held on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of *February* 2026 by the following vote:

- AYES (30):** Aeronautics and Astronautics - Don-Terry Veal  
Agricultural Economics - Kavitha Srikanth  
Agricultural Science Education and Communication - Kwabena Bayity  
Applied and Creative Computing (West Lafayette) - Khalil El Breidi  
Biochemistry - Jacob Czaicki  
Biological Sciences - Ayomide Olohigbe Unuigbokhai  
Black Cultural Center - Victoria Parker  
Botany & Plant Pathology - Jean Paul Iyakaremeye  
Chemistry - Anusha Anusha  
Computer Science - Harry Tian  
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine - Maya Fulton  
Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences - Sam Harris  
Economics - Zachary Knepper  
Educational Studies - Fangfang Mo  
Electrical and Computer Engineering (Indianapolis) - Abhishek Chappidi  
Engineering Education - Udeme Idem  
English - Sidney Ducleroir  
Entomology - Hira Poudel  
Environmental & Ecological Engineering - Christian Chimezie Obijanya  
Food Science - Lauren Yepes  
Horticultural & Landscape Architecture - Grace Lentz  
Human Development and Family Studies - Sybil Cutler  
Industrial and Molecular Pharmaceutics - Neha Panchabhai  
Languages and Cultures - Nafiu Olayiwola Oloore  
Mathematics - Geoffrey Baring  
Mechanical Engineering (West Lafayette) - Ramakrishnan Jayasekaran  
Nursing - Christelle Altidor  
Physics and Astronomy - Lindsay Michelle Dawson  
Theatre & Dance - Tatyanna Rodriguez  
Veterinary Clinical Sciences - Oluwabunmi T. Oladele
- NAYS (3):** Linguistics - Zeyu Feng  
Nutrition Science - Pius Sarfo Buobu  
Sociology - Sean Boylan
- ABSENT (9):** Anthropology - Heidi Cooke

**Reinstating the Purdue Graduate Student Childcare Grant**

Civil Engineering - Chandra Vikas Thipirishetty  
Forestry & Natural Resources - Jean Fritz Saint Preux  
Health and Kinesiology - Ivan Bobadilla  
Health Sciences - Esraa Gabal  
Statistics - Dylan Clarke  
Industrial Engineering - Pragathi Jha  
Materials Engineering - Jasmyne Emerson  
Nuclear Engineering - Jonah Lau  
**ABSTAINED (9):** Agronomy - Jude Addo-Chidie  
Biomedical Engineering (West Lafayette) - Sushma Gude  
Chemical Engineering - Katherine Leigh Young  
Communication - Gladys Mana Momade  
Ecological Sciences and Engineering - Jayvaughn Peter  
Engineering Technology - Varshitha Yalamanchili  
Interdisciplinary Biomedical Sciences - Danielle Ahwireng  
Management - Chiran Kodippili  
Purdue University Interdisciplinary Life Sciences (PULSe) -  
Emmanuel Oluwarotimi

2026. **IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this 19<sup>th</sup> day of *March*

DocuSigned by:  
  
37534548B3374A5  
Abigayl Novak  
Senate Clerk, PGSS

## EXHIBIT "A"

### PROPOSED POLICIES OF THE PGSG CHILDCARE GRANT

**Purdue University Graduate Student Government  
Childcare Grant Application**  
Application on rolling basis

Completed applications must be submitted following guidelines on the PGSG website.

**Purpose:** This need-based grant will provide graduate students with funding to help cover childcare tuition. Grants can be up to \$1,000 for students using a licensed childcare provider and up to \$500 for students using a non-licensed childcare provider. Grants can be up to \$1,500 for students with a child or children with special needs who are not using a licensed childcare provider (with proof of disability if grant is awarded). Funding is limited and competitive.

**Eligibility:**

1. Graduate student enrolled full time ([as defined by the Office of the Registrar](#)) at Purdue University
2. Legal guardian of the child or children aged 12 or under, or child or children with special needs under the age of 19
3. Demonstrate financial need
4. Have out-of-pocket, weekly childcare expenses
5. Only submit ONE application per household per fiscal year

**Application:** Please complete all information thoroughly and accurately

Applicant Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Middle Last

Campus Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Campus Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ PUID # \_\_\_\_\_

**Spouse of Applicant (if applicable)**

Spouse Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Middle Last

Spouse PUID # (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ Is spouse a Purdue student? **No** **Yes**

Spouse Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Does spouse work? **No** **Yes**

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Child in Care Information:** Number of children for which you are legal guardian \_\_\_\_\_  
*Only submit ONE application per household per fiscal year*

Child Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ (AGE \_\_\_\_\_) Relationship to  
applicant \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy)

- This child is in (select all that apply)
- Infant/preschool care (<6 years of age)
  - Afterschool program (>6 years of age)
  - Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please have your current Center director sign this document verifying enrollment and estimated weekly expenses for this child.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Child Care Center Name of

\_\_\_\_\_  
Child Care Center Representative Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Child Care Center Representative Print of Name Weekly expense

\_\_\_\_\_  
Provider's Address: City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Provider's telephone number, Registration/License Number of Provider  
**(The Grant Review and Allocation Committee reserves the right to verify that the care being provided is legal)**

**Essay portion:** (required)

In 350-500 words, describe your need for this financial assistance and how this funding will be used, or how this funding will benefit your academic career. Describe your childcare-related financial need by summarizing your primary sources of monthly income such as assistantships, fellowships, employment or savings, and outlining the essential recurring expenses that limit your disposable budget, including housing, utilities, food, transportation, healthcare and any current childcare costs. Clearly identify the remaining funding gap by comparing your documented childcare expenses to the income available after these obligations and explain how this gap affects your ability to meet childcare demands during the term. State the exact award amount you are requesting within the \$500 to \$1000 range and justify this figure based on your verified childcare costs. Finally, indicate how the requested funds will be used, specifying the childcare services the grant will support and the period during which you expect to use them.

Is there any additional information you would like to provide (optional)?

**Release Statement:**

I authorize Purdue Graduate Student Government to access and release my contact information (telephone, email, and mailing address) to scholarship donors.

- Yes
- NO

**READ AND SIGN**

I have read the instructions for completing this form and, to the best of my knowledge, have answered the questions truthfully.

By signing below, I affirm that all information submitted in this application is accurate and complete. I understand that:

- Funds must be used exclusively for tuition in childcare expenses
- Incomplete or inconsistent submissions may result in denial
- This grant is nonrenewable within the same academic year (Only submit ONE application per household per fiscal year)
- Intentional misrepresentation results in permanent ineligibility

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Signature of Applicant

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Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

## **Purdue Graduate Student Childcare Grant**

### **Review Rubric (50 Points Total)**

**Funding cutoff: 40 points**

#### **Each criterion is scored on the following tiers:**

1-4 points indicates a weak showing

5-7 points indicates an adequate showing

8-10 points indicates a strong showing

#### **Demonstrated Financial Need (1-10 points)**

A score of 8-10 reflects a clear and precise explanation of income, essential expenses and childcare costs, with a funding gap that is logically supported by documentation.

A score of 5-7 reflects a reasonable description of need with some missing numerical details or minor inconsistencies.

A score of 1-4 reflects vague, weak or insufficiently supported financial need.

#### **Childcare Cost Burden and Documentation Quality (1-10 points)**

A score of 8-10 reflects complete provider verification with childcare rates that are clearly described, time specific and consistent with the narrative.

A score of 5-7 reflects acceptable documentation with minor gaps or unclear elements.

A score of 1-4 reflects poor documentation, weak verification or information that contradicts the stated costs.

#### **Quality and Coherence of the One-Paragraph Statement (1-10 points)**

A score of 8-10 reflects a polished, cohesive paragraph that integrates income, expenses, the funding gap, the requested amount and the intended use of funds in a clear and logical manner.

A score of 5-7 reflects a paragraph that communicates the necessary information but lacks depth, clarity or strong organization.

A score of 1-4 reflects a paragraph that is vague, disorganized or missing major required elements.

#### **Alignment Between Requested Amount and Documented Costs (1-10 points)**

A score of 8-10 reflects a requested amount that is fully justified and matches documented childcare expenses and the stated financial gap.

A score of 5-7 reflects a request that is reasonable but not thoroughly justified.

A score of 1-4 reflects a request that appears arbitrary, inflated or misaligned with documentation.

#### **Completeness and Organization (1-10 points)**

A score of 8-10 reflects a complete, well-organized application that is clearly prepared for blind review.

A score of 5-7 reflects a mostly complete application with minor issues in clarity or organization.

A score of 1-4 reflects noticeable gaps, unclear presentation or missing required components.