

Success in graduate school is more than just reading, writing, and researching. For graduate student parents, it is crucial to find adequate support and resources for your family in order to thrive as a scholar. Whether you already have children or are thinking about starting a family while in graduate school, UCSB has resources, support, and benefits to help you thrive.



Family Housing

UCSB offers **2 family housing** complexes for graduate students, featuring 1- and 2-bedroom apartments located about a mile from the campus center. Priority is given to families with children, and it is recommended that interested students apply for the waitlist as soon as possible – even prior to admittance – to ensure their spot in these popular residences.



Children's Center

Our campus supports **2 Children's Centers** that provide childcare for student, staff, faculty, and community families. Tiered tuition rates are offered as well as grants and scholarships for families with financial need. The Children's Center is heavily utilized by our community, so we recommend getting on the waitlist early (e.g. as soon as you have a due date for childbirth or a placement date for adoption).



Financial Support

Graduate student parents have access to several financial resources to **offset childcare expenses**. The Graduate Student Association offers quarterly childcare grants to all eligible graduate students, and Academic Student Employees and Graduate Student Researchers can take advantage of the childcare reimbursement program as well as a dependent care flexible spending account.



Social Support

In addition to the **vibrant communities** in Family Housing and the Children's Centers, graduate student parents can also find social support through online networks – such as our Graduate Student Parent Facebook group – and in the broader community – such as through Postpartum Education for Parents (PEP) groups. These networks are a great way to meet other parents, share advice, and get connected to resources.



PARENTING ACCOMMODATIONS AT UCSB

Finding balance between competing life priorities – such as school, work, family, hobbies, and self-care – can be a challenge. UCSB offers a variety of accommodations to make the transition to parenthood a little smoother for graduate students.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS | The Graduate Division encourages student parents to maintain open lines of communication with their advisor and department in order to create academic solutions that work for all parties involved. In order to reinforce that cooperation and provide support to make accommodations possible, we offer options for parenting leaves of absence as well as expanded time-to-degree provisions for parenting demands.

EMPLOYMENT ACCOMMODATIONS | Graduate students who are employed as Academic Student Employees or Graduate Student Researchers are eligible for limited paid and unpaid leave options related to pregnancy, childbirth, and parenting. Students should work with their advisor/PI, department, academic personnel and the Graduate Division to find the most suitable accommodations for their particular needs.

LACTATION SUPPORT | Our campus offers access to lactation rooms, breast pumps and supplies, and other types of lactation support through the Human Resources department.

MORE INFORMATION

Visit our Graduate Student Parent Resource Page

www.gradpost.ucsb.edu/student-parents

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