

May 20, 2025

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies

The Tammy Baldwin
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education, and Related Agencies

Dear Chair Aderholt, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chair Capito, and Ranking Member Baldwin,

As 428 organizations, institutions, and advocates committed to promoting the postsecondary success of college students with children, we are writing to express our strong support for robust funding for the **Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) Program** in the next Appropriations bill, on the way toward investing the \$500 million annually needed for the program. CCAMPIS offers vital support for the participation and success of low-income parents in postsecondary education through the provision of subsidized child care and is widely recognized as one of the most important supports for parenting college students. Nearly **four million** college students in the United States are parents of dependent children, representing more than one in five undergraduates and more than 1 in 4 Pell Grant recipients.

Parenting students are striving to provide a better life for themselves and their children. Unfortunately, they also face acute financial, work, and caregiving demands that can complicate their ability to earn a postsecondary credential. The many challenges they face balancing child care, academics, work, and precarious finances can often become barriers to their ability to persist in higher education. Data from the [Gallup-Lumina Student Study](#) demonstrate that parenting students are more likely to cancel or pause their educational journeys than students without children.

CCAMPIS removes barriers to student success. Data from the [U.S. Department of Education](#) show that parenting students with access to reliable and affordable childcare through CCAMPIS have a persistence rate of 75%. **Increasing CCAMPIS funding to \$500 million in the Labor-HHS-ED appropriations bill would ensure that roughly 75,000 more parenting college students, approximately 6 percent of Pell-eligible parenting students with children under 5, receive the child care assistance they need to continue their educational journeys and be successful in college.**

As is highlighted in the recently passed S. Res. 839 designating September as [National Student Parent Month](#), parenting students are a growing student population, uniquely motivated to excel in their programs of study despite the many challenges they face. Many of these parenting students are balancing college and parenting without the support of a spouse or partner, with 54 percent of single mothers also working 20 hours or more and 43 percent working 30 hours or

more per week, on top of their course load. Parenting students are more likely than other students to live in poverty and incur substantial student debt—mainly due to the high cost of child care. One in four parenting students experience food or housing insecurity, and an [overwhelming majority](#) of parenting students say that child care is not affordable. Parenting students also spend significant time providing care, with 21 percent of community college students spending more than 20 hours per week caring for dependents, according to the [2020 Community College Survey of Student Engagement](#).

CCAMPIS puts child care within financial reach. According to a [recent survey](#) of roughly 23,000 parenting students, 70 percent of respondents reported that their child care arrangement was unaffordable. While the median price of child care for all parenting students was around \$500 a month, CCAMPIS funds kept the median cost for child care around \$160 a month for low-income parenting students. This significant cost difference could impact whether a student persists and completes their program of study or has to withdraw. Helping parenting students succeed in their postsecondary and career goals has a long-term and larger impact. Research shows that a [\\$3,000 increase](#) in a parent's earnings during early childhood yields a 17 percent increase in a [BM3] [child's future earnings](#), providing dividends for the family unit and the American economy.

The CCAMPIS program is the only federal program dedicated to providing child care assistance for low-income students in postsecondary settings. Other available child care assistance, such as subsidies provided through the Child Care and Development Block Grant, are helpful sources of support but can be challenging for parenting students to access due to restrictive eligibility rules, wait lists, and limited funding.

Support from CCAMPIS enables students to persist toward and complete postsecondary credentials critical to their families' economic well-being, which are associated with various multigenerational benefits. Scaling up this program to serve a more significant percentage of Pell-eligible students with young children, improving their chances of postsecondary success.

While we are thankful Congress has invested in CCAMPIS in recent years, allowing more parenting students to access much-needed affordable and reliable child care, we are deeply concerned that the Administration's proposed FY2026 budget would eliminate the program, creating a devastating impact on thousands of parenting students' ability to stay in school. We ask you to continue to support CCAMPIS and include a robust increase in funding for the CCAMPIS Program in the next Labor-H appropriations bill, toward the \$500 million needed.

Sincerely,

Today's Students Coalition
American Society for Emergency
Contraception
Ascend at the Aspen Institute
Associated Students Inc., California State
University Dominguez Hills Child
Development Center

AZ Students Association
Brain Parenting Scholars
Branching Futures LLC
Bread for the World
Bruin Parenting Scholars
Bunker Hill Community College
CA Alliance for Student Parent Success

Calaveras Child Care Council
 California Competes
 Campaign for College Opportunity
 Campus Compact
 Center for Child and Family Studies
 Center for Law and Social Policy
 Center for WorkLife Law
 City College of San Francisco's Family
 Resource Center
 Clearinghouse on Women's Issues
 Coalition of California Welfare Rights
 Organizations, Inc.
 Community Food Bank of San Benito
 County
 Complete College America
 Council for Adult and Experiential Learning
 Early Childhood Learning School at UC
 Davis
 Early Edge California
 Education Trust
 Feminist Majority Foundation
 First Focus Campaign for Children
 FirstGen Forward
 Generation Hope
 Healthy Teen Network
 Hildreth Institute
 Hunger Free Vermont
 Institute for Child Development and Family
 Relations
 Institute for Higher Education Policy
 Institute for Women's Policy Research
 Jeremiah Program
 Jobs for the Future
 John Burton Advocates for Youth
 LeadMN
 Maddy Day LLC & Associates
 Maryland Hunger Solutions
 Michigan State University Student Parent
 Resources Center
 Micronesian Islander Community
 Mount Mary University
 Mount Wachusett Community College:
 Child Watch Service
 NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in
 Higher Education
 National Association of State Student Grant

and Aid Programs
 National Women's Law Center
 New America Higher Education Program
 NM Basic Needs Consortium
 One Family
 Parent Voices California
 People Beyond Borders
 PERG Learning
 Pregnant Scholar Initiative
 Raise the Barr
 Save the Children
 SchoolHouse Connection
 Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
 Student Basic Needs Coalition
 Student Parent Help Center University of
 Minnesota
 Student Veterans of America
 Student Helping Oz Peers
 Students with Dependents Program
 Swipe out Hunger
 Teamer Strategy Group
 The Hope Center for Student Basic Needs
 The Institute for College Access & Success
 The Jed Foundation
 The Pregnant Scholar
 The Well-being Matters
 Towson University Child Care Center
 UAspire
 UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden
 Teaching Nursery
 UC Irvine Basic Needs Center
 UC Irvine, Womxn's Center for Success
 UIC CCAMPIS/Little Sparks Program
 University of California Student Association
 UPCEA
 University of Hawaii at Mamoia Student
 Parents
 UWM Children's Learning Center
 Vermont Foodbank

 Washington State Community College Basic
 Needs Navigator
 Washington's Postsecondary Basic Needs
 Coalition
 Women Employed

Individuals

Derek Abeln
Lizbeth Abeln
Aldenia Abrego
Shone Adams
Andrea Aguilar
Maria Aguilar
Valerie Aguilar
Jonathan Aldaco
Keri Alioto
Nedaa Aljalab
Tee Allen
AnnMarie Alvarez
Sion An
Hannah Anderson
Diana Aramburu
Mia Arellano-Garcia
Rodrigo Arenas
Natalie Arevalo
Xochitl Armien
Sierra Armien Funk
Uma Armien Funk
Brittany Armstrong
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Andaleeb Awwad
Olivia Badalamenti
Natalie Balleto
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Brenda Barajas
Sydney Barnes
Amanda Beld
Kayleigh Bird
Pamela Blanco
Goby Breeden
Gianna Brocchini
Alison Brooks
LaShonda Bruce
Brianna Buck
Riley Cade
Olivia Cadena
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Megan Campbell
Joselin Campos
Jessica Carden
Delilah Carrasco

Mariana Carrola
Amanda Carter
Eve Castellanos
Gladis Castillo
Kenia Castillo
Kathy Castillo Escutia
Jorge Castro
Miguel Castro
Monica Caudillo
Jannet Ceja
Simona Celik
Jesseca Chatman
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Yessenia Cruz
Robert Cunningham
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Suzy Davtian
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Emma De Beuckelaer
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Leah Adams-Curtis
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Jasmin Escalante
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Deo Ferrer

Deo Ferrer
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Rachel Fischer
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Greg Funk
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Ofelia Godina
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Tran Nguyen
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Melissa Norris
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Charlotte Sangermano
Cynthia Santana
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Dalia Torres
Krystle Torres
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Marissa Weiss
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Zack Whedbee
Julia Whitmer
Brittany Williams
Heather Willoughby
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Donna Ybarra
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