



## **MN Postsecondary Child Care Grant** **2017-2018 Information and Awarding Policy**

### **What is the Postsecondary Child Care Grant?**

The Postsecondary Child Care Grant Program may be available to qualifying, low income students from the Minnesota Office of Higher Education [MOHE] to assist in paying for qualifying child care expenses while the student attends classes.

### **Who is Eligible?**

Assistance may be available to students who are:

- ☐ Minnesota residents
- ☐ Enrolled 6-15 credits [undergraduate] or 1-6 credits per term [graduate]
- ☐ Not in default on any education loan
- ☐ Making Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)
- ☐ Not receiving reciprocity benefits from any other state
- ☐ Pursuing a nonsectarian program course of study that applies to an undergraduate or graduate degree, diploma, or certificate
- ☐ Have attended *five* years or less in each degree type [undergraduate or graduate]
- ☐ Have dependent child care expenses for qualifying children age 12 and under (or 14 and under if child has a documented disability)
- ☐ Demonstrate financial need as determined by the FAFSA.

### **How Are Students Reviewed for Funding/When Should Students Apply?**

The priority deadline for submitting a completed Postsecondary Child Care Grant Application *with* supporting documentation is August 01<sup>st</sup> each year for the upcoming academic year. Funds are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis with priority given to Minnesota Child Care Grant fund recipients from the previous year. If/when the school runs out of funds, students will be placed on a 'waiting-list,' and awarded in date-stamp order if/when funding becomes available. All incomplete applications will be returned to the student, and the official application date will be determined once the grant application is completed and returned to the Student Financial Services Office at Concordia University.

## Retroactive Awards

If a student applies later in the aid year, *funding is available*, and was eligible for a prior term in the aid year, Concordia University will pay students retroactively.

## How Can Students Apply?

To apply please complete and submit the following documents to the Student Financial Services Office at Concordia University:

- ☐ 2017-2018 Minnesota Child Care Grant Application  
<http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/sPages/FAForms/ChildCareGrant/CCGApp17-18.pdf>
- ☐ A Minnesota State Programs Eligibility Form  
<http://www.csp.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Minnesota-State-Program-Eligibility-Form-STANDARDIZED.pdf>
- ☐ Provide transcripts (official or unofficial) from **all** colleges previously attended

## How Much Can Students Qualify For?

The Minnesota Postsecondary Child Care Grant award is based on the income of the applicant's family, the number of eligible children within the family who need childcare, and the applicant's level of enrollment.

For 2017-2018, the maximum award amount is \$3,000 per eligible child per academic year. The amount of the award cannot exceed 40 hours of child care per week, per eligible child. Eligible students may also receive a 10% increase, as referenced on the maximum award chart, for infant care in certain counties.

## Appeals for Denials/Terminations

Students denied funds from the Minnesota Postsecondary Child Care Grant may appeal through the school's appeal procedure outlined below:

- Write detailed letter to include:
  - Why you were initially denied/terminated as referenced on the official Child Care Grant Notice.
  - Why you feel the denial should be further reviewed (include supporting documentation, if applicable).
  - Mail/Fax Letter and Supporting Documentation to:
    - Concordia University  
1282 Concordia Avenue  
St. Paul MN 55104  
Attn: MN Postsecondary Review / Financial Aid  
FAX Tel: (651) 603-6298

If the student is not satisfied with the result of the appeal, (s) he may ask the school to forward the results to the commissioner of the Minnesota Office of Higher Education for review. Upon submission, the commissioner will review the decision and accompanying documentation and shall make a decision according to

Minnesota Statutes, Section 136A.125, and agency rules 4830.7000 to 4830.7900. The student and school will then be advised in writing of the commissioner's decision, which will be final.

*Please note: Students must first follow Concordia Universities appeal procedure before contacting the OHE.*

### **How Much Can Students Receive?**

The amount of funding available each year varies depending upon the amount allocated to Concordia University by the State of Minnesota. Students receiving assistance from the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) do not qualify for the Minnesota Postsecondary Child Care Grant.

Eligible students may receive up to \$2,800 per child per year to help pay for child care from the Minnesota Postsecondary Child Care Grant Program.