

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

[[DATE]]

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
HHS, Education, and Related Agencies
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor,
HHS, Education, and Related Agencies
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairwoman Capito and Ranking Member Baldwin,

We write to express our strong support for the Child Care Access Means Parents in School (CCAMPIS) program, and we request robust funding for the CCAMPIS program in the fiscal year 2026 appropriations bill. The CCAMPIS program helps to ensure low-income parenting students complete their postsecondary education by helping to meet their needs for affordable and convenient child care.

Nearly 4 million college students are parents of dependent children, representing more than one in five undergraduates—or 22 percent of all undergraduates—in the United States.^{[\[1\]](#)} Parenting students struggle to pay for child care on top of the growing cost of tuition, fees, course materials, housing, food and other expenses. Access to affordable child care is one of the most important supports that can help parenting students succeed in college.

Established in 1998 by Congress, the CCAMPIS program is the only federal program dedicated solely to providing child care assistance for low-income students in postsecondary settings. While funding for CCAMPIS has increased in the last few years, the current level of funding for the CCAMPIS program represents a small fraction of student demand for affordable and high-quality on-campus childcare. Increasing funding for the CCAMPIS programs will help to meet the expansive and urgent needs of parenting students enrolled in higher education who are working to attain a degree, certificate, or credential to provide economic security for themselves and their families.

We strongly urge you to prioritize funding for the CCAMPIS program and provide robust funding as part of the fiscal year 2026 appropriations bill. Providing adequate child care resources to parenting students will help to improve both college completion and affordability.

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Thank you for your consideration of our request.

[[CLOSING]]

[[SIGNATURES]]