



Parental Support Policy

In an effort to better support our students who are also parents, the Kennedy School, beginning September 2007, will provide the following support systems and policies:

- **Parental Student Relief Policy¹:** This policy will enable all students who serve as the primary caregiver for pre-school-aged children² to be eligible to enroll on a part-time basis³. During this time, the student would maintain his or her student health insurance and student housing (if applicable). Students would also remain eligible for financial aid, although his or her aid package may change as a result of a decreased course load. Students should contact their Program Director for more information on the required core course sequences for part-time students.
- **Kennedy School “Parents in a Pinch” Membership:** Parents in a Pinch (PIAP) is an agency which assigns temporary, certified child care providers in the event that a family has unexpectedly lost its provider, or if its permanent provider is temporarily unavailable. With access to PIAP membership, students can use this service up to 10 days per academic year, paying only for the childcare provider’s hourly rate. Students will not have to pay a membership or referral fee for these services. Students should refer to the Kennedy School’s Parents in a Pinch FAQs (<http://www.ksg.harvard.edu/degreeprograms/student services/piapfaq.pdf>) or contact the Assistant Director of Degree Programs for Student Affairs, Erin Ward Bibo, for more information on PIAP services and the School’s membership.
- **Kennedy School Parental Support and Childcare Website:** This online resource for students with children was established to provide useful information on childcare, local neighborhoods, activities and parent networks for our students:
<http://www.ksg.harvard.edu/degreeprograms/student services/studentparent.htm>
- **Kennedy School Student Parent Listserv and Discussion Board:** At the suggestion of students, the School established a Student Parent Listserv (studentparents@lists.ksg.harvard.edu) and Discussion Board (<http://ksgnotes1.harvard.edu/degreeprog/studparent.nsf>) to increase information sharing and communication amongst the Kennedy School student parent community. Students may request listserv membership by emailing the Assistant Director of Degree Programs for Student Affairs, Erin Ward Bibo.

¹ International students on F1 or J1 visas are ineligible to participate in the Parental Student Relief Program due to Federal visa requirements regarding full-time study.

² The School defines “pre-school-aged children” as those in their early years whom, because of age, are ineligible to enroll in Kindergarten or elementary school. A pre-school-aged child will typically be no older than six years.

³ The School defines part-time status as enrolling in at least 2 credits per semester. Students in the Mid-Career MPA Program must participate in the Summer Program on a full-time basis.