

NIH began providing childcare support to recipients of NRSA fellowships on April 8, 2021.

- Applies to full -time NIH -NRSA-supported fellowship positions.
- Each fellow is eligible to receive \$2,500 per budget period
- For households where both parents are NRSA fellows, each parent is eligible to receive \$2,500.

NIH began providing childcare support to recipients of NRSA training grants (continuation, new, or renewal) in FY 2022.

- For eligible Training Grants, childcare costs will be provided, unless otherwise specified on the notice of award, based on the number of trainee slots awarded.
- No additional action is needed on the part of the applicant at the time of application to request these funds

See details and application instructions for F's: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-21-074.html>

See details for T's: <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-21-177.html>

See Frequently Asked Questions: Childcare Cost FAQs:

https://grants.nih.gov/faqs#/funding_programs_childcare_costs.htm?anchor=question56509

Applicability (F awards)

The NRSA childcare costs apply to full-time NIH-NRSA-supported fellowship positions. Each fellow is eligible to receive \$2,500 per budget period for costs for childcare provided by a licensed childcare provider. For households where both parents are NRSA fellows, each parent is eligible to receive \$2,500.

Childcare costs are permitted for dependent children living in the eligible fellow's home from birth under the age of 13, or children who are disabled and under age 18. Childcare costs do not apply to elder or non-child dependent care costs.

Policy

Each NRSA fellow may request \$2,500 per budget period to defray childcare costs. Childcare must be provided by a licensed childcare provider. Recipients must maintain all supporting documentation (e.g., proof provider is licensed) and make it available to NIH officials upon request. NIH does not require recipients to submit this supporting documentation with each request.

The NRSA childcare costs are not tied to payback obligations, nor should it be reported as such.

When childcare costs are awarded, they are generally restricted and cannot be re-budgeted without prior written approval from the NIH awarding IC. In cases of early termination, recipients may not use any unused portion of the childcare costs. It will remain unobligated and will be adjusted by the agency as part of the closeout process.

Applicability (T awards)

The NRSA childcare costs apply to each full-time predoctoral or postdoctoral NIH-NRSA-supported institutional research training award appointment; undergraduate appointees are not eligible. Each full-time predoctoral or postdoctoral NRSA appointed trainee is eligible to receive \$2,500 per budget period for childcare costs provided by a licensed childcare provider. For households where both parents are eligible full-time predoctoral or postdoctoral NRSA trainees, each parent is eligible to receive \$2,500.

Childcare costs are permitted for dependent children living in the eligible full-time predoctoral or postdoctoral NRSA trainee's home from birth until the age of 13, or, for children who are disabled [i], until age 18. Childcare costs do not apply to elder or non-child dependent care costs.

Policy

NIH will provide an annual \$2,500 per each full-time predoctoral or postdoctoral NRSA trainee appointment slot at the time the new, renewal, or continuation award is made. NIH will not provide childcare support for short-term predoctoral or postdoctoral NRSA trainees regardless of the activity code. For active awards, NIH anticipates beginning to award the additional \$2,500 in childcare costs per trainee slot at the time of the next continuation award starting in Fiscal Year 2022.

For childcare costs to be considered allowable, eligible full-time predoctoral or postdoctoral NRSA trainees must be appointed to the NRSA institutional research training award prior to use of the childcare costs.

The NRSA childcare costs are not tied to payback obligations, nor should it be reported as such.

Childcare must be provided by a licensed childcare provider. Recipients must maintain all supporting documentation (e.g., proof provider is licensed) and make it available to NIH officials upon request. NIH does not require recipients to submit this supporting documentation except when specifically requested.

When childcare costs are awarded, they are restricted. Only eligible full-time predoctoral or postdoctoral NRSA trainees may use the costs and they must be used for childcare expenses; any unused funds cannot be rebudgeted and must be reported as an unobligated balance on the Federal Financial Report (FFR). The awarding IC will offset any unused funds in future years or will adjust the amount as a part of the closeout process.

A. General Childcare Cost Questions

5. What expenses and provider types are permitted using the childcare costs?

Eligible childcare under the childcare cost is care that is licensed and/or regulated by state and/or local authorities, including, but not limited to:

- Childcare at a day camp, nursery school, or by a private sitter
- Before- or after-school care, pre-schools
- Licensed day care centers
- Summer or holiday day camps