Equal opportunities support programmes
Rules
On financial support for the placement in childcare facilities of children of employees and students of the Università della Svizzera italiana.

The Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) supports employees and students with limited income who, in order to balance family and work/education life, place their children aged between 0 and 3/4 years in childcare facilities.

1. **Criteria to obtain financial support:**
   - At least one of the parents, or those who have parental authority, is employed or enrolled as students at USI;
   - The child/ren are placed in childcare facilities officially recognized by the Canton (nurseries or day-care families affiliated to the Federazione ticinese delle famiglie diurne);
   - At least one of the members of the child/ren’s family unit is a beneficiary of Riduzioni dei premi dell’Assicurazione Malattia (RIPAM).

2. **Conditions of the support:**
   The USI financial support corresponds to a sum equal to the Aiuto soggettivo for RIPAM beneficiaries recognized by the Canton to the family for their child/ren custody during work or study. USI reimburses, for every child placed in a nursery or in a day-care family, a sum equal to 100% of the Aiuto soggettivo for RIPAM beneficiaries resulting from the monthly invoice of the nursery or day-care family.

3. **Request submission:**
   The request for financial support shall be submitted to the Equal Opportunities Service with the following documents:
   - The filled-in form for requesting USI financial support;
   - Employment certificate or certificate of attendance of the parent/s who is/are member(s) of USI community;
   - The contract certifying the child/ren’s placement in the childcare facility;
   - The latest document certifying the recognition of RIPAM support;
   - The latest monthly invoice from the childcare facility for the placement of the child/ren.

   The form for requesting USI financial support can be retrieved at the Equal Opportunities Service or from the website www.equality.usi.ch

4. **Decision**
   Requests for support are received by the Equal Opportunities Service, which evaluates them together with the Administrative Direction and the Human Resources Unit of the relevant campus. The applicant receives by regular and digital mail a written communication about the final decision.
5. **Payment of the financial support**  
The financial support is reimbursed from USI to the applicant upon submission of the detailed monthly invoice from the childcare facility and the receipt of the payment made by the family.

6. **Start date of the support**  
The right to receive the financial support from USI starts from the date of submission of the request to the Equal Opportunities Service or, if subsequent, from the date of recognition of the right to the RIPAM reduction.

7. **Obligations**  
The applicant must inform immediately the Equal Opportunities Service in the following cases:
   - Cancellation or modifications of the RIPAM reduction;
   - Changes to any of the criteria of eligibility for USI financial support, and notably, termination of the employment or study contract with USI, or relocation of the child/ren to a different childcare facility.

8. **Duration and termination of the USI's financial support**  
The financial support is granted for the entire duration of the child’s placement in a nursery or in a day-care family, as long as the conditions listed in Art. 1 are met and remain unchanged. USI will cease to provide the financial support in case one or more of the conditions listed in Art. 1 are no longer in place.

9. **Entry into force**  
The provisions in this document enter into force from the 1st of January 2020.

Lugano, 30 November 2020