



## Budget Request Form FY2018

*Department should complete one form for each individual request*

**Department:** Children's Center

**Program, Service, or Operation Requested**

Student Discounts

SAFAB Use Only	
YES	NO

**General Description:**

The Children's Center currently offers 65 student-headed families with a \$100 monthly discount on their child's tuition at the center from SAFAB funds. These funds offset the high costs of childcare while the parents re attending classes.

**Request Type:**     Full     Increase     One-Time     Partial/Matching

**Type of Funds Requested**     UAF     Other

**General Questions:**

***How does this address an important need and positively impact students?***

For the past ten years, the Center has provided a \$100 discount to student-headed families. Unfortunately, this number has not been increased during that time. Meanwhile, tuition has increased for infant/toddler care by 42% from 2003 to the current year. This increase in child care expenditures, as well as the rising costs of many living expenses, outpaces cost of living expenses and can have a great impact on a family's budget, especially for students who are often living on fixed incomes and also trying to work and complete school with family obligations.

***What department/Division Strategic Plan item does this support?***

Goal 2. Contribute to student success, including retention/persistence and timely graduation. Student-headed families have a greater responsibility to maintain their coursework, research and, oftentimes, also work part-time. Providing dependable child care services allows them to work, study and conduct research without also the worry of their young children.

**What is the impact if not funded?**

The impact to families could further stretch their current household budgets, as the rising costs of childcare tuition could force some families to choose other centers in the community that may have lowered quality. Also, many international students study and live on campus, in which the Children’s Center is conveniently located across from housing on campus and close to on-campus transportation. It allows for less travel time and for less spending in the transportation category of their budgets.

**Please provide any data, evidence, input (student faculty, staff, other) you gathered to help you determine the need for additional resources.**

We have been able to track tuition as far back as 2003 for our infant/toddler age group. Since that time, tuition as increased 42% and parents who qualified for the student discount have not received an increase within this time.

**What actions have you implemented internally to address the identified need?**

The Children’s Center has cautiously and consciously considered tuition increases to families each year. Against the recommendation of consultants who believe we should include steady increases annually, we have not increased tuition annually for the past six years. Most increases had occurred every other year. However, with the rising costs of the Center’s other obligations (materials, food, utilities), we will be increasing tuition each year to keep up with the rising costs of goods and services. This will have a great impact on the student-headed families, some of which also receive state subsidies that subsidize their child’s tuition.

**Generally, what assessment tools will you use to evaluate this program/service?**

We conduct an annual Parent Satisfaction Survey through Student Life Studies which seeks to determine how satisfied parents are with Children’s Center services. This includes their feelings on whether the Center is a good value for the services we provide.

**How have other sources of funding (fundraising, sponsorship, reserves, etc.) been considered?**

**Please explain.**

From a cultural standpoint, the Children’s Center has not conducted fundraisers since research shows that many international families feel a connection to their child’s school to the point of participating in fundraisers even if their family budget is affected. We have decided to possibly work on profit sharing to benefit future family events that would benefit the children and families directly and would include others within Student Affairs and the surrounding community for their participation.

**Funding Description:**

	Dollar Amount
<b>Total Estimated Cost</b>	<b>\$39,000.00</b>
<i>Less Estimated Partial/Matching Funds (if applicable)</i>	
<b>TOTAL INCREASE REQUESTED</b>	<b>\$39,000.00</b>

SAFAB Comments/Notes: