

COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

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Press Release

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THE COUNCIL OF GRADUATE STUDENTS CHILDCARE ENDOWMENT AWARDS IT'S FIRST RECIPIENTS

EAST LANSING, MI 48824: The Council of Graduate Students (COGS) Childcare Endowment expendable account is up and running and still has funds left to be paid to students. The COGS full council approved the creation on the Childcare Endowment in January 2011 to provide financial support for graduate and professional students with children who require paid childcare in order to pursue their degree program.

Among the current recipients paid are two international students, making this the first time an international student at Michigan State University has received a child care grant from the Institution. One law student is still awaiting the Board of Trustees action to also receive payment for this semester.

One of the recipients, Aissatou Ouedraogo, has given the following testimonial on how much these grants have helped her:

"Generally, university childcare grants are not available to international students and most of the graduate students like me coming from oversea can be overwhelmed with childcare expenses when they are not aware of how expensive childcare can be in the United States. It can be so overwhelming that it can even impact their school performance as a good amount of their time might be devoted to getting childcare arrangements. As far as I am concerned, I am free of those worries because of the money that I received thanks to the efforts of the COGS in making childcare grant available to international graduate students. I truly hope that the COGS will continue getting support from donors in order to make this financial assistance, sustainable."

COGS would like to thank the offices that have followed through on their commitment to the Childcare Endowment:

The Office of Finance and Operations

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

COGS would also like to thank the Graduate School and the Office of International Students and Scholars who are currently in the process of transferring funds.

There are currently four more grants that can be paid this semester to graduate and professional students. For more information and to download the application, please visit The Office of Financial Aid's website here: <http://www.finaid.msu.edu/ccgrant.asp>.

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