



DEPENDENT CARE TRAVEL GRANT PROGRAM

Paying out of pocket for additional dependent care costs associated with university-related travel is a challenge for many faculty. The primary objective of the dependent care travel grant program is to reduce the barriers to caregivers for attending work related conferences, workshops, professional meetings and research activities that contribute to their professional visibility, provide valuable networking opportunities, and aid in the progression of instructional faculty in their careers at Virginia Tech.

Eligible faculty may receive as much as \$1,000 per academic year towards dependent care-related expenses above and beyond their regular dependent care expenses while attending professional academic events away from home, e.g., conferences, invited talks, meetings with research sponsors, etc.

Eligibility requirements vary by participating college, but generally include:

1. Full-time, regular instructional faculty members.
2. Single caregivers or those whose spouse/partner is not available to provide care during the period of eligible travel.

The benefits to dependent care support policies and programs such as this one go beyond individual impact. They also include improvements to the research profile and prestige of the college and university, enhanced recruitment of new faculty, and improved retention rates for existing faculty.

This pilot program was developed by the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost and launched by three colleges in 2022. Continuation of the program is managed at the college level. Contact your dean's office for more information about the availability of the program in your college.