

Graduate Studies Parental Grant Policy

Approved September 2019

Parental Grant

The Parenting Grant is intended to assist parents in successfully combining their graduate studies and family responsibilities with minimum financial and/or academic impact. According to the Employment Standards Act 200 - May 7, 2018 version Part XIV, a “parent” includes:

“A person with whom a child is placed for adoption and a person who is in a relationship of some permanence with a parent of a child and who intends to treat the child as his or her own”

Parental Grant

Parenting Grants of up to \$4000/term for a maximum of 3 terms. Students are eligible to receive a Parenting Grant if they meet the following criteria:

- Are enrolled full time in a PhD program and have completed a minimum of one term of graduate studies at Trent
- Have completed less than 12 full-time terms in the PhD program upon commencement of the Parenting Grant.
- Are not eligible for external Parental Leave grants (through tri-council, OGS Scholarships, or other awards)
- Must go on a parental Leave of Absence (LOA)
- Must start the Parental Grant within 1 term of birth or adoption.
- Total benefit is 3 terms/child. If both parents are graduate students, the grant can be split between the parents but cannot be held by both parents in the same term.
- Normally students will be eligible for a maximum of two Parenting Grants during their degree.
- Are able to provide valid documentation to show proof of birth or adoption.

Note: Students who hold fellowships, scholarships or grants from Tri-Council agencies should be aware that these agencies or any other external funding source might have policies governing the interruption and continuation of awards that may differ from the University’s policy on LOA. Students holding such awards, and who intend to keep them, are responsible for ensuring that any LOA taken does not conflict with the granting agency’s regulations. The appropriate agency should be contacted for details.

Application Details

- Apply directly to the School of Graduate Studies by sending an email to graduate@trentu.ca that includes your name, student number, and required documentation.

The parental grant will remain available to students as long as budgetary resources are available. Once an application is approved, funding will not be revoked due to budget constraints but the approval of new applications may be impacted.