Dear employees,

we are still facing difficult times and many parents are suddenly confronted with daycare closures due to positive Corona cases. The Office of Family Services is aware of these realities and will continue to develop measures of support in 2022. At the same time, we hope you and your families have a restful end to the year and enjoy spending time together.

We wish you happy holidays and a healthy start to 2022!

Topic Overview

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1. Vacation Childcare 2022

In 2022, the Office of Family Services will again offer childcare for children of university members during the Easter, summer and fall vacations. This measure is financed by the state program "Equal Opportunity Universities" ("FF-Hochschulen"). In the future, a special program for adolescents between 10-14 years will be offered.

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2. Corona time-out for families

The ongoing pandemic is a challenge for many people, especially for families.

The Federal Department of Family Affairs ("Bundesfamilienministerium") provides families with low-cost vacations at nonprofit facilities to help them recover. Families with low-income and those with relatives who have disabilities are eligible. Families pay only about ten percent of the usual cost for room and board. The vacation may last up to one week.

Families can benefit from the grant twice: once for a stay in 2021 and once for a stay in 2022. For more information (German only), click here.

It is recommended to subscribe to the mailing list ferienbetreuung@uni-bonn.de.

Further information will - in the coming year - be released on our website.
3. Travel allowance for children and accompanying persons

In order to pursue the university's internationalization strategy in a consistent and targeted manner and to break down barriers in the area of mobility, a travel allowance for employees was already decided in 2020. The measure is aimed at all employees in science, research, teaching and administration.

In particular, employees who have to take their children on a business or research trip and who do not have childcare facilities at their place of destination are to participate. The subsidy can only be applied for after approval of the business trip. The individual case is examined according to defined criteria.

The maximum amount of the subsidy is €600 per year.

Applications can be submitted soon, corresponding documents and forms will be available on the intranet or in Confluence.

The travel cost center accepts applications throughout the year. General questions can also be directed to the Office of Family Services and to the Office for Gender Equality.

4. Financial changes from 2022

Beginning in the new year, there will be some changes for families. The most important ones are as follows:

- Increase of the minimum wage as well as the earnings limits for mini- and midi-jobs
- Introduction of so-called real splitting ("Realsplitting") instead of spousal splitting ("Ehegattensplitting")
- Allowances for families who use a family and everyday support service

There will be no increase in child benefits in 2022.

Further information and tips on the subject of taxes and finances can be found here (German only).

5. Babysitter Service

Starting in the new year, flexible childcare providers can once again be arranged through the Office of Family Services. Most of these babysitters are students of the University of Bonn who are experienced in providing childcare.

Interested parents can contact familienbuero@uni-bonn.de with details of their needs and hours of care.
6. Notes and Dates

*** Short-term support for student and doctoral parents in graduation phases - to be continued in 2022

Students and parents pursuing a doctorate who are in the final phase of their studies were able to apply for short-term support in the period from October 2019 to the end of 2021. The financial subsidies for flexible childcare were able to relieve the burden on many families during this period and, above all, support them in successfully completing their qualifications.

We are happy to announce that the program will be continued in 2022 in a cooperation between the Office for Gender Equality and the Office of Family Services.

In January, details will be available on our website.

*** Participation on Equal Care Day (March 1, 2022)

Together with the Office for Gender Equality, the Office of Family Services will participate in the Equal Care Day next year, which will take place on March 1, 2022, in the form of a hybrid city conference.

The aim of the initiative is to create public awareness of care tasks in society and politics.

Details on the program can be found here.

*** Diaper changing tables for installation in institutes – available at the Office of Family Services

The Office of Family Services is providing diaper changing tables for institutes and central units. Installation is recommended for the sanitary area. Interested people may contact the Office of Family Services.

A mobile changing table can also be borrowed if necessary.

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Note: If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please send an e-mail to familienbuero@uni-bonn.de.

All information without guarantee

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