Red text = New Union language
Blue text = Union language from the September 25/October 05, 2026 Package

ARTICLE XX.
FAMILY SUPPORT

Section A. General Principles

1. Eligibility for benefits under this contract shall be determined in accordance with the Health and Welfare Plan's definition of 'child,' which ~~may~~ shall include, but is not limited to, biological children, adopted children, ~~and~~ foster children, and children of an Employee's domestic partner or spouse.

2. ~~An Employee is eligible to claim all applicable benefits for any child who qualifies as the Employee's dependent for tax purposes or who is a that has not yet met the time requirement for dependent status.that has not yet met the time requirement for dependent status.~~

~~Section B. Child Care Scholarship~~

~~1. All benefit-eligible Employees working at least 17.5 hours per week with a child who is the Employee's legal dependent under age 13 (or a child under age 18 with a documented disability) and a total gross household income (HHI) falling under the caps outlined below shall be eligible to apply for a Child Care Scholarship. Professional staff employees are eligible for the annual base award and postdocs and non-ladder faculty are eligible for the annual enhanced award. An awarded scholarship is paid as a reimbursement for submitted child care expenses.~~

~~**Projected Total Gross Household Income: Adjusted for Family Size***~~	~~**Annual Base Award**~~	~~**Annual Enhanced Award (3X)**~~
~~< $55,000~~	~~$6,000 - $8,000~~	~~$18,000 - $24,000~~
~~$55,000 - < $75,000~~	~~$5,200 - $5,800~~	~~$15,600 - $17,400~~
~~$75,000 - < $100,000~~	~~$4,200 - $5,000~~	~~$12,600 - $15,000~~
~~$100,000 - < $130,000~~	~~$3,400 - $4,000~~	~~$10,200 - $12,000~~
~~$130,000 - < $150,000~~	~~$2,200 - $3,200~~	~~$6,600 - $9,600~~
~~>= $160K~~	~~$0~~	~~$0~~

- ~~If the Employee has a spouse/qualified domestic partner, they must be formally occupied for at least 15 hours per week.~~

- ~~An Employee's projected total gross HHI, adjusted for family size, falls under the income caps for family size shown below. Income is adjusted by the Office of Work/Life in the following way:~~

  - ~~Single parent household: $10K is added to the income cap~~
  - ~~Households with more than one child aged under 13 years: $10K is added to the income cap for each additional child aged under 13 years beyond the first, up to three additional children.~~

~~1-child~~	~~<$160,000~~
~~2-child~~	~~<$170,000~~
~~3-child~~	~~<$180,000~~
~~4-child~~	~~<$190,000~~

- ~~Program guidelines are available from the Office of Work/Life and may be amended from time to time.~~

Section B. Childcare Assistance Benefit

1. All benefit-eligible Employees with a child under age 13 (or a child under age 18 with a documented disability) and a total gross household income falling under the caps outlined below shall be eligible for a Childcare Assistance Benefit, paid out as a monthly supplement added to regular payroll over the course of a 9-, 10-, or 12-month appointment.

    a. Eligible employees will have a projected Total Gross Household Income under the following income caps, adjusted for family size (# of children aged under 13 years [or aged under 18 years with a documented disability]):

        i. One child < $250,000
        ii. Two children < $260,000
        iii. Three children < $270,000
        iv. Four or more children < $280,000

2. Families shall be grouped into one of two programs, according to the age of their youngest child:

    a. 0–5: Youngest child age 0–5 years as of the start of the current fiscal year (July 1).

b. 6–12: Youngest child aged 6–12 years as of the start of the current fiscal year (July 1) or aged 12–17 years with a documented disability.

c. The benefit is then calculated according to the following matrix:

Total Gross Household Income for single-child families	**Award 0–5 (before required tax withholding)**	**Award 6–12 (before required tax withholding)**
<$125,000	$24,000	$12,000
$125,000–$149,999	$18,000	$10,000
$150,000–$174,999	$12,000	$8,000
$175,0000–$199,999	$8,000	$6,000
$200,000–$249,999	$4,000	$4,000

3. Benefit amount is determined by calculating adjusted Total Gross Household Income by subtracting $10,000 from a family's total gross projected income

   a. if a single-parent family or a dual-career household maintaining two separate households;

   b. for each additional child up to and including the fourth child under age 13 years (or under 18 years with a documented disability).

4. In addition to the benefit enumerated above, families with additional children aged under 13 will receive an award supplement of $4,000 per child.

5. While benefits are generally calculated and awarded on an annual basis, Employees with a new birth, adoption, or foster placement shall be eligible to claim an award at the pro rata equivalent of the annual benefit upon return to work from any applicable leaves.

6. Employees with foster placements of less than 6 months shall be eligible for an award at the pro rata equivalent of the annual benefit.

7. Childcare assistance benefits are extra compensation under IRS rules and therefore subject to required supplemental tax withholding at a federally-established rate.

Section C. Harvard Childcare Centers

1. All Employees shall be eligible to enroll their children in all on-campus childcare centers, if space is available, with access and prioritization equivalent to all other benefits-eligible staff, academic employees, and students, following an initial prioritization of ladder and non-bargaining unit senior non-ladder faculty. ~~, following an initial prioritization of ladder and non-bargaining unit senior non-ladder faculty~~.

2. If an Employee's employment at Harvard ends or is set to end before their contract with an on-campus childcare center, the Employee shall be permitted to terminate their agreement with the childcare center with 30 days' notice. ~~Employees shall not be required to sign a childcare contract exceeding the term of their appointment in order to access an on-campus childcare center.~~

Section D. Back-Up Care Services

1. The Corporation ~~University~~ shall continue to offer a Corporation ~~University~~-supported package of Back-Up Care Services, such as those currently offered (as of January 2026) ~~via Wellthy,~~ for all benefit-eligible Employees covered by this Agreement.

2. The Corporation ~~University~~ may modify the Back-up Care Services Program from time to time and may change providers at any time. In the event the Corporation ~~University~~ modifies the plan or changes providers, the Corporation ~~University~~ will notify the Union in advance, provide information with regard to any such changes, and will meet with the Union at their request to discuss any changes in the new plan.

3. Any modifications to the Family Building Benefits Program shall maintain, at minimum, 20 days of subsidized back-up care per fiscal year. Copayments for these days shall be set at the following maximums:

    a. Employees earning less than $110,000/year: $50 per day.

    b. Employees earning $110,000/year or more: $100 per day.

4. The Corporation ~~University~~ shall continue to offer the SOURCE (Subsidy for Occasional, Unplanned, and Respite Care Expenses) reimbursement program to support all benefits-eligible Employees earning less than $85,000 on an annualized (FTE) basis, when regular childcare or adult care is unavailable or falls through. This service reimburses eligible Employees for the cost of backup care provided by a friend, neighbor, relative, other in-home provider, or licensed childcare or adult care center. While the Corporation ~~University~~ may modify the program from time to time, the Corporation ~~University~~ shall maintain at least a minimum benefit of:

a. 100% of the cost of backup care of the Employee's choice, up to $350 per employee per year. (These funds will be disbursed through payroll and, if required under IRS rules, will be subject to required supplemental tax withholding at a federally-established rate.)

Section E. Family Building Benefits

1. The Corporation ~~University~~ shall continue to offer a Corporation ~~University~~-supported package of Family Building Benefits, in accordance with current (as of January 2026) University-wide programming, for all benefit-eligible Employees covered by this Agreement. The family building benefit is included with enrollment in the Harvard-sponsored medical plans. Employees can request, and the Corporation ~~University~~ will consider, adjustments in work schedule to allow access to these services.

2. The Corporation ~~University~~ may modify the Family Building Benefits Program from time to time and may change providers at any time. In the event the Corporation ~~University~~ modifies the plan or changes providers, the Corporation ~~University~~ will notify the Union in advance, provide information with regard to any such changes, and will meet with the Union at their request to discuss any changes in the new plan.

3. Any modifications to the Family Building Benefits Program shall maintain, at minimum:

    a. Adoption Support: Reimbursement of $10,000 per adoption event for expenses associated with adoption.

    b. Infertility Diagnosis requirements: A medical diagnosis of infertility shall not be required to receive fertility treatment or preservation through the Benefits Program.

    c. Lactation Support: Breastmilk shipping for University-related travel at no cost to the Employee.