

Student Parent Program May Newsletter



Are you graduating during the 2022-2023 academic year? If you completed your degree or are intending to complete your degree between September 2022 and August 2023, please complete our [Student Parent Graduation Survey](#) – we want to celebrate your achievement and we have graduation gifts for you and your kids!

May 2023 SPP Events:

- Register for this Saturday's [Student Parent Programs Cultural Potluck \(April 29th\)](#)

Please join us at the University Village Community Center for a Student Parent Potluck - use the link above for more info and to register for the event.

- [Mother's/Caregiver's Day Brunch May 13th](#) – Hampshire Dining Hall @11am – 1pm

You are invited to a family feast in celebration of mothers and caregivers who sacrifice so much to take care of your household! Come connect with fellow student parent families, introduce your kids and loved ones to campus and enjoy a delicious meal on us. Click the link for more info and to register – space is limited so register today!

- [Student Parent Programs End of Year Celebration](#): Sunday 5/28 UMass Amherst Student Union South Lawn (the lawn behind the library, facing the pond) @11am-2pm

Student Parent Programs is hosting an event to celebrate all of the hard work our student families have put in this year! Join us for our biggest event of the year - we will have catered food, games and activities, face painting, gifts for the graduating parents, and a certificate ceremony for the kids of those parents graduating. So come by for good food, good vibes, and good fun! Click the link to register.

- **Support Groups for Student Parents** ([more info and Zoom links here](#)):
 - New Parent Support Group – Noon-1pm via Zoom, May meetings 5/2, 5/16
 - Single Parent Support Group - Noon-1pm via Zoom, May meetings 5/11, 5/25

Commented [JA1]: Link and location name (lawn between the library and duck pond)

- Student Parent Support Group –7:30pm-9pm via Zoom, 5/1, meets the first Monday of each month

Campus Resources Spotlight

Student Parents in STEM

A new organization for student parents is coming to UMass! Many clubs and activities are created with the “traditional” student in mind and often do not fit the schedules or needs of a parenting student. The goals of ‘Parents in STEM’ are to be that space for pregnant or parenting students to connect, network, enjoy activities, and push the STEM departments to allow for better resources for their parenting students.

Please sign up for the interest form [here](#). For more information, email parentsinstem@umass.edu

Campus News and Events

- ★ [GEO Health & Welfare Trust Fund Benefits news:](#)
 - GEO Spring childcare reimbursement [application](#) deadline is May 31, 2023, for receipts from Jan-May 2023. Receipt submission begins May 15th and closes May 31st, 2023!
 - [Family Friendly Workspace](#): check out this quiet, comfortable place we created for graduate employees to work when they have their kids with them on campus.
 - Graduate employee parents are eligible to receive up to \$250 in [Outschool preK-12](#) course credits per child--if you'd like to access free online classes, camps and tutoring for your child, complete the [Outschool request form](#).
 - May Calm App Challenge: May is mental health month and we are celebrating with a challenge! Join us on May 3rd at 10 am for a [Facebook livestream introduction to Calm](#) and details about the challenge. We will be giving away great prizes!
 - Family wellness costs: eligible wellness costs for your family (spouse/partner/children) are now eligible toward [your \\$225 reimbursement](#). Family members do not receive their own \$225 reimbursement. Your spouse, partner or child must be enrolled on your Trust Fund benefit plans in order to be eligible.

Community Resources Spotlight

[Northampton/Hadley Family Connection](#)

Check out the playgroups at Northampton Parents Center, Hadley Playgroup, and Meadowbrook Playgroup

[Kestral Land Trust Walks in Hadley!](#) Join the Family Connection for sensory walks and mindful exploration in conserved places. Sat, May 6th @10am – 11:30am

To sign up for this event and others, click [here!](#)

[United Way Diaper Bank](#)

Community Baby Shower with the Hampshire County Perinatal Support Coalition

Saturday, April 29, 2023 @ 9:30-11:30 AM

Smith Vocational High School, 80 Locust St, Northampton

United Way's Diaper Swap: Drop off packages you no longer need and take something your family can use

Free Clothes: Pop-Up Shop from It Takes a Village

Free Raffle for Baby Gear

Local organizations offering connection and information for new families

Visit <http://www.northamptonfamilies.com/week-of-the-young-child.html> for more info or email program@uw-fh.org

Family Friendly Events and Outings

[Amherst Public Outdoor Pools](#) – Opening between May to June!

[Bridge of Flowers \(Shelburne Falls\)](#) - Open now! *No entrance fee*

[Norwottuck Rail Trail](#) – Amherst to Northampton

[Lake Wyola State Park](#) - Shutesbury

[Mount Sugarloaf](#) – South Deerfield

[Green River Swimming and Recreation Area](#) - Greenfield

[AllTrails](#): search trail guides and maps for hiking, camping, and biking

June is strawberry season!

- [Warmer Farm](#) – Sunderland
- [Simple Gifts Farm](#) – Amherst
- [Uppingil Farm](#) – Gill
- [47th Annual Massachusetts Sheep and Woolcraft Fair](#) – May 27th – 28th Sheep show, sheep shearing demonstration, weaving, food vendors, and more!

We want your feedback! If you have information or resources that you think we should include in an upcoming newsletter, let us know!

We are here for you! If you have questions or need support, please reach out to our staff at studentparent@Umass.edu or call our office at (413)577-1005. Wishing you and your family health and peace.