

Lehigh Sloan Program FAQs

Sloan Research Grants

Q: Can the grant money be used for expenses not specifically stated, such as airfare for a babysitter to accompany a parent and child to a conference?

A: Yes, this type of expense definitely falls under the grant's intent. The babysitter must be a licensed care provider. However, it should be noted that such an expense would be considered additional compensation, and therefore, is taxable.

Q: In terms of using the grant money for childcare, does the person providing the care have to be licensed, or can the faculty member use their own babysitter (assuming the babysitter could provide receipts)?

A: The provider has to be licensed, so an unlicensed babysitter would not be acceptable even if he or she could provide receipts. The paperwork on-line says that the grant can be used for "child care through a licensed day care provider."

Q: Is there a deadline for when the funds have to be expended?

A: Yes. Although we advise grant recipients to submit receipts as soon as possible, we understand that the grants can be useful beyond the first year of the child's birth or placement. Therefore, the grant will expire either upon the faculty member obtaining tenure or two years after the grant has been opened, whichever is later.

Q: If both spouses are faculty members at Lehigh, can one spouse with a grant use the money to cover some of the other spouse's research expenses?

A: No, but if both spouses qualify for the research grants, they may apply for separate grants.