Parenting During COVID-19

Finding & Adapting to Summer Care Options
Stay Informed – things are changing quickly!

HR Guidance for Parents & Caregivers
https://hr.cornell.edu/covid-19-workplace-guidance

Join the Cornell Parenting Newsletter & Parent e-Lists
https://hr.cornell.edu/e-lists

“Wellbeing Update” email from Work/Life, Wellness, and FSAP
https://hr.cornell.edu/wellbeing-perks/
Types of Care / Options

- **Informal Care:** Babysitters, Nanny, Nanny Share
- **Quaranteam/Pod:** with other families (share the caregiving)
- **Summer Camps**
- **Child Care Centers**
- **Group Home Child Care Providers:** many openings, licensed for 6-12 children
- **Work Schedule Adjustments:** hybrid remote/on-site, hours, workload, PTO
Informal Care: Babysitters, Nannies, etc.

**Benefits**

Family becomes the employer with one consistent caregiver

If you have 2 or more children it may be proportionally more affordable

Care may take place in your family home or in nanny/shared home

May have more flexible schedule and possibly offer household help

**Possible challenges**

Caregiver needs time away for appointments, vacations, illness

Can be expensive

Record keeping (receipts) are recommended

If you pay more than $2,100 in one year, you may be required to issue a W-2
Quaranteam or Family Pods (share the caregiving)

Things to Consider/Discuss:
- Size of group
- Minimizing risk
- Safety rules
- Coordination
- Finding the right match
- Location/s
- Food/Meals
- Sanitation and cleaning
- Testing and masks
- If/when someone gets sick

PBS – How to Form a Quaranteam - [https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/how-to-form-a-covid-19-social-bubble-or-quaranteam](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/how-to-form-a-covid-19-social-bubble-or-quaranteam)

• Free membership to Care.com through the Care@Work platform
• Available to benefits-eligible employees, graduate students, and retirees
• Find babysitters, nannies, tutors, elder care companions, pet care, home care, and other types of providers
• Nationwide, over 11 million caregivers
• Read reviews, use the mobile app, nanny pay and many other features
• hr.cornell.edu/careatwork
Create a Job Posting/Ad

- Provide details about what you need
- Tell potential providers a bit about your family and include a photo
- Share with them what they can expect if they provide care for your family
- Include any perks or incentives you may be able to offer, i.e.: meals, transportation
Post a Babysitter/Nanny/Quaranteam Ad

- Care.com (using your Cornell benefit)
- Post to Cornell Parent e-Lists
- Nextdoor.com – connect with others in your neighborhood, post positions, etc.
- Mutual Aid Tompkins Facebook Group /Parenting
- Cornell Student Employment Website
- Ithaca Mama Facebook Group
- Cornell’s Work/Life Consultant (worklife@cornell.edu)
- Craigslist – specific section for child care
In-person Summer Camp Programs

Open/Will Run
- Cornell CUBS Sports Camps
- Coddington Road
- IC3 Summer Camp
- YMCA
- Lansing Recreation Camps
- Paddle-N-More
- Lime Hollow Camps (Cortland)

Cancelled:
- Ithaca Youth Bureau programs
- Greater Ithaca Activities Center (GIAC)
- Ithaca College Sports Camps
- Hidden Valley 4-H Day Camp
- Newfield Summer Camp
- Groton Summer Camp
- Cayuga Nature Center

Undecided:
- Trumansburg Recreation
Child Care Centers

NYS Licensing & Health Department Guidelines:

- Reduced maximum group sizes
- New protocols (drop off, health check, masks, cleaning, etc)
- Increased staffing needed to meet protocols

Waiting lists: shifting due to changing family and work needs
Group Home Child Care

- **Child Development Council** has referral system in place
- Home-like setting with one or two adults
- Groups can be multi-age and may include siblings
- May offer greater flexibility in schedule
- Licensed, regulated, monitored and quality care standards ([NAFCC](https://www.nafcc.org))
- Generally less expensive
Child Development Council

Serves Tompkins and Cortland County
Ithaca: (607) 273-0259
Cortland: (607) 753-0106

Child Care Resource and Referral Program
database of licensed and registered
care
Work Schedule & Workload Changes

1. Adjust your start/stop time (when you work) – use chunks of time that better align to your availability if possible
2. Staff may use paid time off in small increments each day (possible for exempt employees as well) or half/full days as needed
3. Staff may use New York State Paid Family Leave (NYSPFL) for care of children with disabilities, or to provide care to children with a serious health condition. NYSPFL can also be used to provide care to parents and spouses/domestic partners.
4. Reduce your hours temporarily (subsequent reduction in pay)
5. Discuss your work goals and priorities with your supervisor – some work projects/tasks may be better aligned to your current situation than others
Home Schooling & Pod Schooling

Home Schooling, Guide for Home Schooling

Coordinated by TST BOCES – 257-1555 ext 7203
Students must have an approved Individualized Home Instruction Plan (IHIP)
Must submit quarterly reports

Ithaca Podschooling Facebook Page
Loving Education At Home in Ithaca
Unschooling.org
Resources for pre-K through grade 12
Requirements for homeschooling in New York State
In-Home Activities, Tutors, Lessons

Things to do that are fun and educational

Highlighted at the Cornell Parenting Webpage and Parenting Newsletter

- 100 Things
- At Home Learning Resources
- Wide Open School
- Families First Resources
- Stuck at Home Guide
- Educational Resources
- Fun at Home Activities
- Noggin
About the Program

- **Supportive Tutoring for Area Youth (STAY)** is a program that has been developed in response to COVID 19 and the implementation of remote learning for both college students and local school districts.

- **STAY** will provide 1-on-1 virtual tutoring sessions for K-12 students throughout Tompkins County in an effort to support the education of students during this period of remote instruction.

- There are a limited number of STAY tutors, however we will try and meet requests as best we can.

- Parents interested in having their student matched with a Cornell tutor should fill out this form or email Bethany Resnick, K-12 Program Coordinator at brr7@cornell.edu with questions or to learn more.
Summer Care Resources from Care.com

Equal Parts Podcast: Recent podcast subjects that may be of particular interest include ‘Ideas for Summer Camp at Home’ and ‘Parenting During a Pandemic.’

Summer Care Resource Guide: The Summer Care Resource Guide is frequently updated and available on Care.com for all employees to access more information about caring for their children and households throughout the upcoming and unprecedented Summer.

Hobby and Online Tutoring Classes for Children: Employees can search by child’s age, date, and category to find online and virtual classes for their children to participate in from home. Topics include Art, Dance, Sports, Language, and STEM -- to name a few. There is a cost associated with most of the online classes. Prices vary but are clearly outlined on the website.
Cornell Community Chats: Parent Connections

Opportunity for parents of children in specific age groups to connect with one another to brainstorm, share ideas, and explore options.

Facilitated conversations are happening via Zoom on:

- **Wed, June 24 at 2:00 pm**, parents with children ages 0-5 (HR3047-VLT-2020.06.24)
- **Wed, June 24 at 3:30 pm**, parents with children ages 6-12 (HR3047-VLT-2020.06.24.2)
- **Thurs, June 25 at 9:00 am**, parents with children ages 13-18 (HR3047-VLT-2020.06.25)

Registration required. Log into CULearn and search for the course numbers identified above.
Babysitters & Nannies Needed

Do you know someone who needs work? Full and part-time babysitters and nannies are in high demand!

**Ages 18+**
Potential caregivers ages 18 and older are encouraged to post a profile at Care.com and apply for positions posted by parents. Get started by going to Care.com and selecting “Find Jobs.”

**Ages 14-17**
Potential caregivers ages 14-17 years old are not permitted to create a profile at Care.com, thus we are encouraging teens to inform us of their availability and we will attempt to help Cornell families and teens connect (note: teens will not be screened nor are they endorsed by Cornell University).

Learn more.
ONCE UPON A TIME,
I WAS A PERFECT PARENT.
THEN I HAD CHILDREN.
THE END.

Contact us if you have concerns or questions at worklife@cornell.edu.