



TEACH EARLY CHILDHOOD[®]

NC Scholarship Program



— NORTH CAROLINA —

An Early Years Initiative

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA



The TEACH Scholarship program is offered statewide and designed to provide educational scholarship opportunities for early educators including NCPK and infant toddler educators working in licensed facilities. Additionally, unique scholarship programs are available for specialists within the early care and education system. The TEACH Early Childhood® scholarship program offers a variety of scholarship options to study early childhood education at all 58 community colleges and 20 bachelor's degree granting colleges and universities across North Carolina. Typically, comprehensive core scholarships provide partial support for the following: in-state tuition, books, travel and/or course access, and if applicable, release time.

Employees of licensed child care programs including GS-110 licensure-exempt programs are eligible. For most models an early educator must have the sponsorship of their employing child care program. However, capped scholarships that do not require employer sponsorship are also available. Each scholarship has additional eligibility criteria specific to the scholarship model.

CREDENTIALS

North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential Scholarship Program

The North Carolina Early Childhood Administration Credential scholarship offers child care center administrators a chance to earn their administration credentials. Recipients can enroll in up to 12 credit hours toward the NC Early Childhood Administration Credential. Recipients receive a bonus upon completion of their credential and agree to fulfill a specified commitment period.

Child Development Associate (CDA) Certificate Renewal Scholarship Program

The CDA Certificate Renewal scholarship provides early educators the opportunity to receive financial support toward the renewal of their CDA certificate. This support can be toward the cost of the renewal fee and/or toward completing the 3 credit hour course training required for renewal. Recipients receive a bonus upon attainment of their renewed certificate or the completion of their contract. Recipients agree to remain employed in their sponsoring program or continue to operate their home-based program for a specified commitment period.

Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential Direct Assessment Scholarship Program

The CDA Assessment scholarship provides partial financial support to candidates to assist with the cost of the direct assessment fee administered by the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition. Recipients receive a bonus upon attainment of their credential and agree to fulfill a specified commitment period.

Child Development Associate (CDA) Scholarship for Quorum/Teaching Strategies Members

The CDA Scholarship for Quorum/Teaching Strategies Members provides support for the required CDA book and direct assessment fees for early educators working in licensed settings who are completing their CDA training through Quorum/Teaching Strategies. The scholarship covers 100% of the CDA book, direct assessment fee and will provide a \$200 bonus upon award of the CDA credential. In exchange for the scholarship support, the recipient agrees to work in a licensed setting for 6 months after receiving the bonus.

EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATE DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS



1

QUICK START/ FINAL STEP EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATE DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The associate degree option for the Quick Start/Final Step Scholarship is intended for use by early educators who are either just beginning their entry into an associate degree program or who are on track to earn their degree and need no more than 2 classes to graduate. Upon successful completion of this contract, they are awarded a bonus and are required to fulfill a specified commitment period.

2

EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATE DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Early Childhood Associate Degree Scholarship allows early educators the opportunity to enroll in 9-15 credit hours of coursework per year as they pursue a credential, diploma or degree in early childhood education. Upon successful completion of their contract, scholarship recipients receive either a raise or bonus. Recipients agree to remain employed in their sponsoring program or continue to operate their home-based program for a specified commitment period.

3

EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATE DEGREE SCHOLARS PROGRAM (CAPPED SCHOLARSHIP)

The Associate Scholars Scholarship Program is for aspiring early educators enrolled or eligible to enroll in up to 12 credit hours per semester in an Early Childhood Associate Degree program. A specified commitment period is required based on the number of semesters in participation.

EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATE DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS



4

INFANT-TODDLER AND PRESCHOOL CERTIFICATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Infant-Toddler and Preschool Certificate Scholarship programs are specially designed to support attainment of the Early Childhood Infant-Toddler and Preschool certificate. The coursework needed to earn the early childhood Infant-Toddler Certificate Program has a clear emphasis on children birth through two years of age. The Preschool Certificate Program provides a series of courses for early childhood professionals working with young children three through five years of age. The scholarship program offers a package of supports for recipients to take up to 19 credit hours toward either Early Childhood Certificate at any of North Carolina's 58 community colleges. Recipients receive a bonus upon attainment of their certificate and agree to fulfill a specified commitment.

5

EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATE DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD APPRENTICES

The Early Childhood Associate Degree Scholarship for Early Childhood Apprentices is a unique, enhanced scholarship specifically designed for early childhood apprentices working in licensed programs enrolled in a registered apprenticeship program in North Carolina. Early childhood apprentices can take 9-15 semester hours of early childhood coursework per year, are entitled to paid release time and will receive an annual bonus upon successful completion of their contract. Apprentices agree to remain employed in their sponsoring program for an additional year.

EARLY CHILDHOOD BACHELOR DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

1

QUICK START/FINAL STEP BACHELOR DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The bachelor's degree option for the Quick Start-Final Step Scholarship is intended for use by early educators who are just beginning their entry into the bachelor's degree program or only need no more than 2 classes to graduate. Upon successful completion of their contract, they are awarded a bonus and are required to fulfill a specified commitment period.

2

EARLY CHILDHOOD BACHELOR DEGREE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Early Childhood Bachelor Degree Scholarship allows early educators the opportunity to enroll in 9-15 credit hours of coursework per year to work toward a Bachelor's Degree in Child Development or Birth Kindergarten Education at a partnering university. Upon successful completion of their contract, scholarship recipients receive either a raise or bonus. Recipients agree to remain employed in their sponsoring program or continue to operate their home-based program for a specified commitment period.

3

EARLY CHILDHOOD® BACHELOR DEGREE PRACTICUM ONLY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Practicum Only Scholarship is available to early educators in the classroom who are pursuing a Bachelor's Degree and have to complete student teaching away from their place of employment. The scholarship provides a stipend during the semester when they are fulfilling their student teaching requirement. Upon graduation, the scholarship recipient agrees to remain in the field for a specified commitment period.



EARLY CHILDHOOD POST BA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

4 BA PLUS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The BA Plus Scholarship is available to early educators in classrooms and individuals who are working in early childhood focused organizations who already have a Bachelor's degree and wish to pursue early childhood focused licensure, certification or Master's degree. They can enroll in coursework at a partnering university and receive varying levels of support depending on the scholarship model. Upon successful completion of the education component of their scholarship, scholarship recipients receive a bonus. Recipients agree to remain employed with their employer or continue to operate their home-based program for a specified commitment period.

5 NORTH CAROLINA BIRTH-KINDERGARTEN (B-K) RESIDENCY LICENSURE ASSESSMENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The B-K Residency Licensure Assessment Scholarship provides a reimbursement for a percentage of the assessment fee. Educators who have met all prerequisites and successfully passed the required test may be eligible for reimbursement.

6 B-K LICENSURE PRACTICUM ONLY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Practicum Only Scholarship is available to early educators in the classroom who are pursuing a B-K License and have to complete student teaching away from their place of employment. The scholarship provides a stipend during the semester when they are fulfilling their student teaching requirement. Upon graduation, the scholarship recipient agrees to remain in the field for a specified commitment period.



EARLY CHILDHOOD POST BA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

7

PRESCHOOL ADD ON LICENSE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (CAPPED SCHOLARSHIP)

The Preschool Add On License Scholarship is available for teachers in NC Pre-K classrooms who already hold a license in Elementary Education, Child Development, or Special Education. The scholarship offers graduated stipends to support course enrollment based on the teacher's educational plan. Recipients of the Preschool Add On scholarship will receive a bonus when they attain the Preschool Add On license. Scholarship recipients agree to continue working a specified commitment period is required based on the number of stipends received.



MASTER'S & WORKING SCHOLARS



1

MASTER'S DEGREE IN EDUCATION (EMPHASIS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Master's Degree Scholarship is available to individuals who are working in a licensed facility or in an early childhood focused organization. Recipients can enroll in 9-18 credits per year leading to a Master's Degree at one of the two partnering universities. Following the completion of each contract, individuals will receive a bonus and agree to work for a specified commitment period

2

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION COMMUNITY SPECIALIST SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (CAPPED SCHOLARSHIP)

The Early Education Community Specialist Scholarship program is available to individuals who are working in an early childhood focused organization and pursuing an associate degree or bachelor's degree. Recipients of the Early Care and Education Community Specialist Scholarship will receive a capped scholarship for each course taken. Individuals agree to continue working a specified length of time in their employing organization.

3

EARLY CHILDHOOD WORKING SCHOLARS PROGRAM (CAPPED SCHOLARSHIP)

The Early Childhood Working Scholars program is available to early educators in the classroom whose employer will not sponsor them on a comprehensive scholarship. Recipients of the Early Childhood Working Scholars scholarship will receive a capped scholarship each semester going toward the pursuit of an associate degree or a bachelor's degree in early childhood education. Individuals agree to continue working a specified length of time in the early childhood field for each semester a capped scholarship is awarded.

OTHER INCENTIVES



1

CONTRACT RENEWAL BONUSES

The Early Educator Contract Renewal Incentive Program provides an additional bonus to eligible TEACH associate, bachelor, or BA Plus scholarship recipients. The extra bonus will be issued to the recipient in recognition for successfully completing all requirements of the scholarship contract and for renewing another TEACH contract for the following year and showing continued progress on a degree pathway.

2

DEGREE ATTAINMENT BONUS

The TEACH Early Childhood® Degree Attainment Bonus Program rewards and recognizes TEACH recipients who have successfully completed at least one contract on either the associate, bachelor or BA Plus comprehensive scholarship programs and as a result earned their degree or licensure within the current fiscal year. Graduates are awarded the one-time attainment bonus in exchange for agreeing to remain with their sponsoring employer for an additional year.

TESTIMONIALS

SPONSORING EMPLOYER, HAYWOOD COUNTY

Having TEACH to offset the cost of tuition, as well as providing the release time for staff so they can work on their assignments while getting paid, has allowed our center to continue to better educate our teachers, so that we can continue to provide the parents and children with staff who are highly knowledgeable in learning and child development. I personally have and have had several staff members who are single parents or are in lower-income homes, and the bonuses they receive when completing a contract a huge monetary reward that they look forward to receiving. I think the bonuses are a big motivational part to them continuing their education.

ASSISTANT TEACHER, ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM, HENDERSON COUNTY

Overall, TEACH has made it possible for me to actually get an education in the field I love. They are helping me get ahead in my life, set goals, and work toward being able to provide more for my own family. I owe my educational success to TEACH and my employer!

SPONSORING EMPLOYER, HAYWOOD COUNTY

When I thought about going back to school, I had no idea how I would pay for this journey, but with the help from TEACH my dream was possible. Having the drive to do this was easy and having help from TEACH made this possible. TEACH was there for me through my whole college experience, without them none of this would be possible. I thank TEACH and everyone who helped me accomplish my dream.

KEEP IN TOUCH



If you need more information about TEACH North Carolina, assistance with your application, or guidance on eligibility, our team is here for you. Reach out to us—we're happy to help!

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