



# T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Associate Degree Scholarship Program



## What is the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Project?

The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® (Teacher Education and Compensation Helps) Project was developed to upgrade the level of education of teachers working with young children while making the educational process affordable, increasing wages and reducing turnover.

## What is the Early Childhood Associate Degree Scholarship Program?

This scholarship program offers scholarship funds to take courses toward an associate degree in Early Childhood Education at any of North Carolina's 58 public community colleges. It is a partnership between the child care provider, sponsoring center, and T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® North Carolina that enables providers to improve their skills, receive a financial reward and continue the availability of quality child care in local communities. Associate scholarships are available for family home providers, child care center teachers and directors, plus part-day program teachers. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of need and commitment to the Early Childhood Education field, as shown through information on the application.

## Who is eligible for a scholarship?

- Any teacher, director, or home provider who would like to enroll in coursework in Early Childhood Education at a community college and who is employed full-time (30 hours/week minimum) in a licensed child care facility is eligible to apply for a scholarship.
- Any child care teacher working in a part-day program who would like to attend a community college (to earn a certificate, diploma, or A.A.S. in early childhood education) and who has worked at the sponsoring program for at least 9 months is eligible for a scholarship. Applicants must be currently employed at least 20-30 hours per week; have earnings of \$15 or less per hour; and be without a degree in early childhood or child development.

## What child care facilities can be a sponsoring center for a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship?

Licensed profit, church, not-for-profit, public, Head Start, GS-110 program, or family child care home wishing to make a commitment to teacher and/or director education and compensation by meeting the terms of the scholarship contract can participate. Additionally, any licensed part-day preschool or school-age program providing child care to children ages birth through twelve years at least 20 hours per week is eligible.

## What commitment must the sponsoring child care center make (excludes family child care and part-day programs)?

Model	Scholarship	Release Time	Compensation
For Teachers Option 1	10% tuition	3-6 hours per week	3% or 4% raise
For Teachers Option 2	10% tuition 10% books	3 hours per week	\$200 - \$350 bonus
For Directors Model 1	10% tuition 10% books		\$250 bonus
For Directors Model 2			Optional \$250 bonus

## What support and commitments can be expected with a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship?

Model	Scholarship	Education	Compensation	Commitment
For Teachers Option 1	80% tuition 90% books Travel stipend Up to 6 hrs release time/week	9-15 semester hours/year @ Community College in Early Childhood Education	3-4% Raise	Additional year in sponsoring center
For Teachers Option 2	80% tuition 80% books Travel stipend 3 hrs release time/week	9-15 semester hours/year @ Community College in Early Childhood Education	\$650-\$800 Bonus	Additional year in sponsoring center
For Family Child Care Providers	80% tuition 80% books Travel stipend 16 hrs release time/semester	9-15 semester hours/year @ Community College in Early Childhood Education	\$450 Bonus	Additional year as family child care provider
For Center Directors	80% tuition 80% books Travel stipend	12-15 semester hours/year @ Community College in Early Childhood Education	\$450-700 Bonus	Additional year in sponsoring center
Part Day Scholarship for licensed school-age & pre-school programs	50% tuition 50% books Travel stipend	9-15 hours @ Community College	\$350 Bonus	1 year in sponsoring program

## How is the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® North Carolina Scholarship Program funded?

Funding comes from the North Carolina Division of Child Development and Early Education, the Child Care and Development Block Grant, and the state legislature.