T.E.A.C.H.
Early Childhood® Scholarship Program

Scholarship Models
Frequently Asked Questions

What is T.E.A.C.H.? (Teacher Education And Compensation Helps)

The T.E.A.C.H. Program:
• Links training, compensation, and commitment to improving the quality of early care and education
• Provides scholarships for early childhood teachers and facility/family home directors to work toward earning an Associate, Bachelor’s, or Master’s degree in early childhood education, a Florida Staff Credential, a Director Credential, a National CDA Assessment, or credential renewals
• Involves a partnership for the sharing of expenses by the scholar, the sponsoring child care program, and the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship Program

What are some examples of T.E.A.C.H. success?

T.E.A.C.H. successes:
• T.E.A.C.H. works with over 65 colleges, universities, vocational technical schools, and community-based training institutions throughout the state.
• Since 1998, more than 57,000 scholarships have been awarded.
• On average, T.E.A.C.H. scholars maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher.
• T.E.A.C.H. helps further the professional development goals of our scholars, supplying well-prepared and better-educated teachers to Florida’s young children.
Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible for a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship?

**Teachers, directors, or family child care educators may be eligible if they:**
- Are Florida residents
- Have a high school diploma from an accredited school or a GED
- Are employed by a licensed or license-exempt child care facility, in a licensed or registered family child care home, or by a licensed after school program
- Work a minimum of 20 hours per week with a birth through pre-K population or in an after school program for a minimum of 520 hours per year
- Have the sponsorship of the child care or after school program which employs them

What does the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship cover?

**The scholarship provides:**
- The majority of the cost of tuition and books
- A per semester student access stipend for most scholars
- A tiered bonus structure for degree-seeking scholars upon contract completion
- A reimbursement to the center or family child care for the paid release time provided to scholars in most scholarship models
- Counseling and administrative support

Need a new computer for school?

If you are an active scholar enrolled in coursework, T.E.A.C.H. can assist you with a 90% reimbursement (up to $500) on essential tech purchases, including laptops!

T.E.A.C.H. Counselors and Program Specialists are available to answer specific program questions and provide support to teachers, directors, and owners.

Contact our office at 877-FL TEACH (877-358-3224) to find out if you are eligible and see how T.E.A.C.H. can work for you.
Frequently Asked Questions
Program & Center Directors/Owners

Can my program afford to sponsor my staff with a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship?

Chances are, yes. The important question is whether you can afford NOT to sponsor your staff. Turnover rates in early care and education are between 30-40% nationally. For Florida T.E.A.C.H. scholars, the turnover rate is less than 5%. As many directors know, turnover is expensive and can range from several hundred dollars per employee to as high as 1.5 times an employee’s annual salary.

In the majority of our T.E.A.C.H. scholarship models, scholars make a commitment to stay at their sponsoring center or program for a year following completion of their T.E.A.C.H. contract. In fact, we have seen many scholars remain at their program well beyond the established commitment period.

What does my program get in return for providing a raise or bonus upon completion of a T.E.A.C.H. contract?

You have a teacher who is expanding their skill set and using effective instructional strategies in the classroom. You also have a teacher who has made a contractual agreement to stay with your center for a year after completing the T.E.A.C.H. contract. That is good for your program, good for the children, and good for families. It is a win for everyone!

Please contact us if you have any questions about participating in the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship Program. We will gladly connect you with a director who has seen the positive impact T.E.A.C.H. has had on his or her program.
Why does T.E.A.C.H. require the sponsoring center or program to provide 3 hours of paid release time?

Release time helps your teachers reach their highest level of effectiveness. When your teachers have time available to dedicate to their studies, they are more successful in fulfilling their contracts and meeting the professional goals developed through your collaborative partnership.

T.E.A.C.H. financially reimburses the center or program for paid release time provided. The T.E.A.C.H. reimbursement rate to the center or program is Florida minimum wage plus $2.00/hour, up to 48 hours per semester. This means there is money going back to the sponsor to help offset the small contribution to tuition, the cost of a substitute if needed, or the bonus awarded at the end of the contract.

What are some ways my program can provide paid release time to staff with a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship?

- Offer release time during children’s rest time so scholars can study or use the center’s computer and other resources for papers and class projects.
- Schedule release time when classroom ratios are low; for example, early in the morning or late in the afternoon.
- Accumulate release time and provide a whole or half day off before a paper or test, final exam, or when a class project is due. This will give scholars extra time to prepare for these big assignments.
- Pay scholars for their lunch breaks.
- Hire a substitute teacher to cover your T.E.A.C.H. scholars. This usually works best for centers that sponsor several teachers.
Application Information

What materials do I need to complete an application?

• Personal email address*
• Proof of residency
• Proof of high school diploma or GED**
• DCF transcript
• Copies of ECE certificates and/or college transcripts
• Email address for the child care program where you are employed
• License number (or if unlicensed, employer’s Federal ID number) of the program where you are employed
• For public school employees, provide license number or zip code of the school where you are employed
• NAEYC accreditation status of child care program where you are employed
• Number of children enrolled in the program and number for which program is licensed
• School or training organization you wish to attend. Check the ECE Training Directory for options available to you.
• Many scholarship models require your employer to sponsor you, so speak to your employer about T.E.A.C.H. before you apply.

*If you do not currently have your own email address, you can create a free email account at Gmail, Yahoo, Microsoft, or other email providers.

**High school diploma must be translated and evaluated if obtained outside of the U.S.A.

Applications must be completed online at teach-fl.com

Call toll free: 877-FL-TEACH 877-358-3224

Click on the “Scholarship Application” button to begin your T.E.A.C.H. application today!
ECE Training Directory

This valuable electronic resource allows early childhood educators to search training organizations and institutions, colleges, and universities working with the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship program. You can search by school name, by the type of credential/degree track offered, or simply locate nearby schools offering credential or degree coursework in early childhood or child development. The ECE Training Directory also provides a search option for online training programs. Visit teach-fl.com to access the directory.

T.E.A.C.H. Ambassador Program

T.E.A.C.H. has an established network of early childhood professionals and volunteers who serve as representatives of the program in their local communities. Our T.E.A.C.H. Ambassadors help increase community outreach and maximize the impact of the T.E.A.C.H program by explaining the benefits of the scholarship program and providing support at local conferences and meetings.

For more information about the T.E.A.C.H. Ambassador Program, please contact us at TEACHOutreach@thechildrensforum.com
Florida Staff Credential

Center Teacher

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<th>T.E.A.C.H.</th>
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<td>80% National CDA assessment fee</td>
<td>10% National CDA assessment fee</td>
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<tr>
<td>$125 Stipend per semester</td>
<td>3 hours paid release time for participants working 30+ hours per week</td>
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<tr>
<td>FL minimum wage + $2.00/hr release time reimbursement to sponsor</td>
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Education........................................................................................................120 clock hours
Compensation.................................................................................................T.E.A.C.H. $350 • Sponsor $250 or 2% raise
Commitment.........................................................................................................1 year to the sponsoring center

Center Director

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<td>$125 Stipend per semester</td>
<td>Flexible schedule</td>
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Education........................................................................................................120 clock hours
Compensation.................................................................................................T.E.A.C.H. $350
Commitment.........................................................................................................1 year to the sponsoring center
Family Child Care Educator

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<td>$125 Stipend per semester</td>
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<td>assessment fee</td>
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<td>FL minimum wage + $2.00/hr release time reimbursement</td>
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Education ........................................................................................................ 120 clock hours
Compensation ...................................................................................................... T.E.A.C.H. $350
Commitment ........................................................................................................... 1 year to the program

Center Owner

| Education ........................................................................................................ 120 clock hours
| Compensation ............................................................................................... T.E.A.C.H. $350
| Commitment .................................................................................................... 1 year to the program

Staff Credential Scholarships are available for:

The National CDA Assessment is included in the Florida Staff Credential Scholarship model above; however, this particular scholarship will be given only to those participating in a DCF or FLDOE approved credential program.

For National CDA Assessment scholarship, see page 11.

Department of Children and Families (DCF)
- Birth through Five Florida Child Care Professional Credential (FCCPC)
- School-Age Florida Child Care Professional Credential (FCCPC)
- Formal Education Qualification

Florida Department of Education (FLDOE)
- Early Childhood Professional Certificate (ECPC)
- Child Care Apprenticeship Certificate (CCAC)
- School Age Professional Certificate (SAPC)
# Director Credential

## Center-based Employee

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<tr>
<td>90% Books</td>
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<td>10% Books</td>
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<tr>
<td>$125 Stipend per semester</td>
<td>3 hours paid release time for participants working 30+ hours per week (teachers only)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL minimum wage + $2.00/hr release time reimbursement to sponsor</td>
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**Education**
4.5 CEUs or 3-9 credit hours

**Compensation**
T.E.A.C.H. $300

**Commitment**
1 year to the sponsoring center

## Family Child Care Educator

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<th>T.E.A.C.H.</th>
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<td>$125 Stipend per semester</td>
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<tr>
<td>FL minimum wage + $2.00/hr release time reimbursement</td>
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</table>

**Education**
4.5 CEUs or 3-9 credit hours

**Compensation**
T.E.A.C.H. $300

**Commitment**
1 year to the program

## Center Owner

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<td>10% Books</td>
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<tr>
<td>$125 Stipend per semester</td>
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**Education**
4.5 CEUs or 3-9 credit hours

**Compensation**
T.E.A.C.H. $300

**Commitment**
1 year to the program
Option 1
(Includes center-based employee, family child care educator, and center owner)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>T.E.A.C.H.</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Scholar</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85% Assessment fee</td>
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<td>15% Assessment fee</td>
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<tr>
<td>90% Books</td>
<td></td>
<td>10% Books</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Compensation: ................................................................. T.E.A.C.H. $250
Commitment: ................................................................. 6 months to the field

Option 2
(Center-based employee)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>T.E.A.C.H.</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85% Assessment fee</td>
<td>15% Assessment fee</td>
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<tr>
<td>100% Books</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Compensation: ................................................................. T.E.A.C.H. $250
Commitment: ................................................................. 9 months to the sponsoring center

Option 3
(Center-based employee)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>T.E.A.C.H.</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
<th>Scholar</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>85% Assessment fee</td>
<td>7.5% Assessment fee</td>
<td>7.5% Assessment fee</td>
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<tr>
<td>90% Books</td>
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<td>10% Books</td>
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Compensation: ................................................................. T.E.A.C.H. $250
Commitment: ................................................................. 6 months to the sponsoring center
Credential Renewals (FL Staff, Director, and National CDA Credentials)

**Option 1**
*(Center-based employee and center owner)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>T.E.A.C.H.</th>
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<td>15% Tuition</td>
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<tr>
<td>90% Books</td>
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<tr>
<td>85% Renewal fee, if applicable</td>
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<td>15% Renewal fee, if applicable</td>
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<tr>
<td>$125 Stipend per semester</td>
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<td>$125 Stipend per semester</td>
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**Education** ........................................... 4.5 CEUs or 3 credit hours  
**Compensation** ....................................................... T.E.A.C.H. $250  
**Commitment** .......................................................... 6 months to the field

**Option 2**
*(Center-based employee)*

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<td>$125 Stipend per semester</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 hours paid release time for participants</td>
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<td></td>
<td>working 30+ hours per week</td>
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<tr>
<td>FL minimum wage + $2.00/hr release</td>
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<tr>
<td>minimum wage + $2.00/hr release</td>
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<td>reimbursement to sponsor</td>
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<td>time for participants working 30+</td>
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<td>hours per week</td>
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**Education** ........................................... 4.5 CEUs or 3 credit hours  
**Compensation** ....................................................... T.E.A.C.H. $250  
**Commitment** .......................................................... 9 months to the sponsoring center
### Credential Renewals

**Option 3**
*(Center-based employee)*

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<tr>
<td>reimbursement to sponsor</td>
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**Education** ................................................................. 4.5 CEUs or 3 credit hours

**Compensation** ............................................................. T.E.A.C.H. $250

**Commitment** ............................................................... 6 months to the sponsoring center

**Family Child Care Educator**

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<td>reimbursement to sponsor</td>
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**Education** ................................................................. 4.5 CEUs or 3 credit hours

**Compensation** ............................................................. T.E.A.C.H. $250

**Commitment** ............................................................... 6 months to the field
# 3-6 Credit Model

## Center Teacher

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<td>10% Books</td>
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<td>FL minimum wage + $2.00/hr release time reimbursement to sponsor</td>
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</table>

**Education**...3-6 credits per contract*

**Compensation**...T.E.A.C.H. $250

**Commitment**...6 months to the sponsoring center

## Center Director

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<tr>
<td>90% Books</td>
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<tr>
<td>$125 Stipend per semester</td>
<td>Flexible schedule</td>
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</table>

**Education**...3-6 credits per contract*

**Compensation**...T.E.A.C.H. $250

**Commitment**...6 months to the sponsoring center

*Classes must be in early childhood education or child development and completed in one semester.*
3-6 Credit Model

**Family Child Care Educator**

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**Education** ................................................................. 3-6 credits per contract*

**Compensation** .......................................................... T.E.A.C.H. $250

**Commitment** .............................................................. 6 months to the program

**Center Owner**

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**Education** ................................................................. 3-6 credits per contract*

**Compensation** .......................................................... T.E.A.C.H. $250

**Commitment** .............................................................. 6 months to the program
## Infant Toddler Certificate

### Center Teacher

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<tr>
<td>90% Books</td>
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<td>10% Books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$150 Stipend per semester</td>
<td>3 hours paid release time for participants working 30+ hours per week</td>
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<tr>
<td>FL minimum wage + $2.00/hr release time reimbursement to sponsor</td>
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</table>

**Education** .............................................12 credit hours

**Compensation** ...........................................T.E.A.C.H. $600 • Sponsor $250 or 2% raise

**Commitment** .............................................1 year to the sponsoring center

### Center Director

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<td>$150 Stipend per semester</td>
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**Education** .............................................12 credit hours

**Compensation** ...........................................T.E.A.C.H. $600 • Sponsor $250 or 2% raise

**Commitment** .............................................1 year to the sponsoring center

An Infant Toddler Certificate program consists of 12 college credit hours in early childhood education and child development. Applicants can search the ECE Training Directory for T.E.A.C.H. eligible colleges offering this program.
### Infant Toddler Certificate

#### Family Child Care Educator

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<td>reimbursement</td>
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**Education**

- 12 credit hours

**Compensation**

- T.E.A.C.H. $600

**Commitment**

- 1 year to the program

#### Center Owner

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**Education**

- 12 credit hours

**Compensation**

- T.E.A.C.H. $600

**Commitment**

- 1 year to the program
T.E.A.C.H. Sponsor Scholar

80% Tuition 10% Tuition 10% Tuition
90% Books 10% Books
$125 Stipend per semester

FL minimum wage + $2.00/hr release time reimbursement to sponsor

9-18 credit hours
T.E.A.C.H. $400-$600* • Sponsor $250 or 2% raise
1 year to the sponsoring center

Associate Degree: Early Childhood

Center Teacher

Education.................................................................................9-18 credit hours
Compensation.................................................. T.E.A.C.H. $400-$600* • Sponsor $250 or 2% raise
Commitment............................................................. 1 year to the sponsoring center

TIERED BONUS

*To encourage progress within a scholar’s degree program, T.E.A.C.H. offers a tiered bonus structure. Scholars earning 13+ credit hours per contact receive the higher bonus amount.
Family Child Care Educator

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Education..................................................................................................................9-18 credit hours
Compensation.................................................................................................................T.E.A.C.H. $650-$850*
Commitment.....................................................................................................................1 year to the program

Center Owner

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Education..................................................................................................................9-18 credit hours
Compensation.................................................................................................................T.E.A.C.H. $400-$600*
Commitment.....................................................................................................................1 year to the program
Bachelor’s Degree: Early Childhood
(Educational prerequisite: Associate Degree)

Center Teacher

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<td>FL minimum wage + $2.00/hr release time reimbursement to sponsor</td>
<td>3 hours paid release time for participants working 30+ hours per week</td>
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Education ................................................................. 9-18 credit hours
Compensation: .................................. T.E.A.C.H. $400-$600* • Sponsor $300 or 2% raise
Commitment: .................................................. 1 year to the sponsoring center and a second year to the field

Center Director

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Education ................................................................. 9-18 credit hours
Compensation: .................................. T.E.A.C.H. $400-$600* • Sponsor $300 or 2% raise
Commitment: .................................................. 1 year to the sponsoring center and a second year to the field

TIERED BONUS

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# Bachelor’s Degree: Early Childhood
(educational prerequisite: associate degree)

## Family Child Care Educator

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**Education** ................................................................. 9-18 credit hours  
**Compensation** .......................................................... T.E.A.C.H. $400-$600*  
**Commitment:** ........................................................................................................... 1 year to the program and a second year to the field

## Center Owner

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**Education** ................................................................. 9-18 credit hours  
**Compensation** .......................................................... T.E.A.C.H. $700-$900*  
**Commitment:** ........................................................................................................... 1 year to the program and a second year to the field
Master’s Degree: Early Childhood
(Educational prerequisite: Bachelor’s Degree)

Center Teacher

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**Education** ................................................................. 9-18 credit hours
**Compensation** ......................................................... T.E.A.C.H. $400-$600* • Sponsor $300 or 2% raise
**Commitment** ............................................................. 1 year to the sponsoring center and a second year to the field

Center Director

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**TIERED BONUS**

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Master’s Degree: Early Childhood
(Educational prerequisite: Bachelor’s Degree)

Family Child Care Educator

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