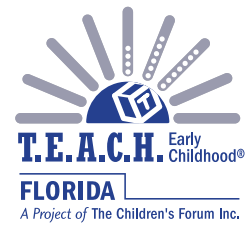


T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarships Frequently Asked Questions



Spring 2018

What is the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship Program?

The T.E.A.C.H. program links training, compensation, and commitment to improving the quality of early childhood care and education experiences for young children and their families. T.E.A.C.H. provides scholarships for early childhood educators to work toward earning a Master's, Bachelor's, or an Associate degree in early childhood education, a Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential or renewal, a Florida Staff Credential or renewal, or a Florida Director Credential or renewal. T.E.A.C.H. involves a partnership for the sharing of expenses by the scholar, the sponsoring child care center or family child care home, and the T.E.A.C.H. program.

What commitments are early childhood programs required to make?

In most scholarship models, early childhood programs agree to sponsor a scholar by contributing a portion of the cost of tuition and giving the scholar 3 hours of paid release time each week while classes are in session (T.E.A.C.H. reimburses the program for a part of that cost). Upon completion of the contract requirements, the early childhood program is responsible for awarding the scholar a bonus or raise.

What commitments are scholarship recipients required to make?

Scholars must attend classes, successfully complete courses, and pay a portion of the cost of tuition and books. In addition, scholars agree to remain in the sponsoring early childhood program or family child care home for a specific period of time following the completion of their contract (typically one year).

What kind of support does the T.E.A.C.H. program provide?

T.E.A.C.H. provides the majority of the cost of tuition and books and for most scholars, a per-semester student access stipend for travel or for internet access. In most scholarship models, some financial reimbursement to the early childhood program or family child care home is provided for release time given to scholars.

Who Is Eligible for a Scholarship?

Child care teachers, directors, owners, and family child care providers may be eligible for scholarships if they meet specific criteria. Scholars must be Florida residents, have a high school diploma or GED, and they must work in a licensed (or license-exempt) child care facility, a licensed or registered family child care home, or a licensed after school program. Scholars must work a minimum of 20 hours per week in a classroom with a birth through Pre-K population (directors/owners are exempt from the "classroom" portion of this requirement). Scholars may also be eligible if they work a minimum of 20 hours per week in a licensed after school program. All scholars must have the sponsorship of the facility or family child care home where they are employed and work a minimum of 520 hours per year.

When are the Application Deadlines for T.E.A.C.H.?

The T.E.A.C.H. fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30. Scholarship applications should be submitted prior to June 30 of the fiscal year in which the coursework was initiated. T.E.A.C.H. may not go from one fiscal year back into a previous year to reimburse or pay for expenses.

How Do I Obtain a T.E.A.C.H. Application?

Eligible applicants may complete and submit a scholarship application by visiting our website at teach-fl.com and following the instructions for our online application process. For additional information, please call 1-877-FL-TEACH (1-877-358-3224).

How Can I Get More Information About T.E.A.C.H.?

Web: teach-fl.com

Toll Free: 1-877-FL-TEACH (1-877-358-3224)

Telephone: (850) 487-6302

Email: teachquestions@thechildrensforum.com

