## **Program Directors**

Do you want to support your staff with a T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship, but think you can't afford it?



# IT'S MORE REASONABLE

- 1. T.E.A.C.H. provides scholarships to teachers, directors, and owners covering the majority of expenses for early childhood credentials and degrees. These credentials include the National CDA assessment, Florida Staff Credential, Director Credential, and their renewals. T.E.A.C.H. scholarships for degree-seeking students provide tuition support for college credit courses, program certificates, Associate and Bachelor's degrees in ECE, and an online Master's degree in ECE Leadership.
- 2. Most scholarship models create a partnership that includes the early educator, the sponsoring employer, and the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship Program.
- 3. T.E.A.C.H. provides a paid release time reimbursement to the sponsoring employer/program as a component of the scholarship partnership. The reimbursement is equal to Florida minimum wage plus \$2.00 per hour. Early educators working in the classroom 30+ hours are eligible to receive 3 hours of paid release time per week from their employer while enrolled in classes (up to 48 hours per semester).

With the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship Program, the cost is shared so you are not alone in supporting your staff. Plus, early educators can further their education and professional development at a minimal out-of-pocket expense!

### Why does T.E.A.C.H. require that the program provides 3 hours of Paid Release Time?

When early educators have dedicated and guaranteed time for their studies, they are more successful in fulfilling their contracts with T.E.A.C.H. and meeting their professional goals within your programs.

#### Wait, really? Yes, really!

T.E.A.C.H. will reimburse the sponsoring program \$14.00 per hour for paid release time provided to the scholar...that works out to around \$672 (per semester) going back to the early childhood program!



#### How does this work?

Below is an example of what it might cost the program if an early educator attends a Florida community or state college to earn an undergraduate degree.

#### Let's walk through an example of the Associate Degree Model (other scholarship models vary)

#### T.E.A.C.H. is responsible for:

- √ 80% of the scholar's tuition
- ✓ 90% reimbursement of the cost of books and the cost of new computer or laptop (up to \$500)
- ✓ A student access stipend of \$250 per semester (paid directly to the scholar)
- ✓ A bonus of \$800 \$1,500 upon contract completion (bonus amount depends on the number of credits earned)

#### The early educator (T.E.A.C.H. Scholar) is responsible for:

- √ 10% of their tuition
- √ 10% of the cost of books and the cost of a new computer or laptop (if applicable)

#### The employer/program (Sponsor) is responsible for:

- √ 10% of the scholar's tuition
- ✓ Providing 3 hours per week of paid release time to eligible scholars
- ✓ Awarding the scholar either a 2% raise or a \$250 bonus when they complete their contract\*



Tuition will be about \$350 per class (i.e. \$116 per credit hour) For 2 classes per semester, it would be:	\$350 x 2 =	\$700
The sponsor co-pay is 10% of total tuition (Hold on. You won't need to write a check!)	\$700 x 10% =	\$70
Release time reimbursement paid to sponsor for scholars working 30+ hours (based on enrollment dates; up to 3 hours per week; per semester*)	\$14.00 x 3 hrs x (16 weeks)	\$672
Approximate amount T.E.A.C.H. would owe the sponsor each semester	\$672 - \$70 =	\$602

## What do you get for sponsoring and investing in your staff?

You have early educators who are expanding their skill sets and applying effective instructional strategies in their classrooms. In addition, your staff will have made an agreement to remain with your program after completing their T.E.A.C.H. scholarship contract. That's good for families, even better for the children, and great for your program.

## IT'S A WIN FOR EVERYONE!

#### **CONTACT:**



Web: teach-fl.com

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**Email:** teachquestions@thechildrensforum.com



Este folleto está disponible en español en nuestro sitio web en <u>teach-fl.com</u>.

\*In the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship partnership, the sponsoring program is responsible for providing their employee either a 2% raise OR a \$250 bonus when they complete a contract. Any release time reimbursement paid to the sponsor (i.e. the \$624 per semester shown above) can be used to cover your direct sponsorship costs, including a raise, bonus, or tuition.

\*\*Remember, if your employee attends class for more than one semester, your program will be reimbursed each semester that paid release time is provided. That can equal up to a \$2,016 reimbursement over a 3-semester contract.