



TEACH Early Childhood® NC Scholarship Program

The TEACH Early Childhood® 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 degree granting colleges and universities across North Carolina. Typically, comprehensive core scholarships provide partial support for the following: in-state tuition, books, course access and if applicable, release time.

General Eligibility Criteria

Employees of licensed child care programs including GS-110 licensure-exempt programs are eligible. Each scholarship has additional eligibility criteria specific to the scholarship model. For more information about additional criteria, please contact the TEACH Early Childhood® Scholarship Program. Current scholarship programs and enhancements are described below.

Early Childhood Credential Scholarship Programs

- **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 credits hours towards the NC Early Childhood Administration Credential. Recipients receive bonus upon completion of their credential and agree to fulfill 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 for earning 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 for earning their renewed certificate or upon completion of their contract. Recipients agree to fulfill a specified commitment period.

Early Childhood Associate Degree Scholarship Programs

- **Quick Start/ Final Step Early Childhood Associate Degree Scholarship Programs**
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 7 credits to graduate. Upon successful completion of this contract, they are awarded a bonus and are required to fulfill a specified commitment period. Educators who work in preschool and school age programs that operate on a part time basis may also access a version of this scholarship program.
- **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. Those who have already completed their early childhood education associate degree can also use this scholarship while pursuing transfer credits in preparation for admission to a partnering state university/college. 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.
- **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 Associate Degree Early Childhood program. A specified commitment period is required based on the number of stipends received.

Early Childhood Bachelor Degree and BA Plus Scholarship Programs

- **Quick Start/Final Step Bachelor Degree Scholarship Program**

The bachelor 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 6 credits to graduate. Upon successful completion of their contract, they are awarded a bonus and are required to fulfill a specified commitment period.
- **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.
- **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.
- **BA Plus Scholarship Program**

The BA Plus Scholarship is available to early educators in classrooms who already have a Bachelor's degree and wish to pursue early childhood focused licensures, certifications or graduate degrees. They can enroll in 9-15 hours of coursework per year at a partnering university. Upon successful completion of their contract, scholarship recipients receive a bonus. Recipients agree to remain employed in their sponsoring program or continue to operate their home-based program for a specified commitment period.
- **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.
- **B-K Residency License Scholarship**

This scholarship reimburses early educators who need to complete the edTPA assessment for the BK Residency License. This scholarship also awards a bonus upon completion of the BK Residency License.
- **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 capped scholarships 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 semesters a capped scholarship was received.

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.

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, a bachelor's degree, or completing graduate level courses in early childhood education. Recipients of the Early Care and Education Community Specialist Scholarship will receive a capped scholarship award for each course taken. Individuals agree to continue working a specified length of time in their employing organization.

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 award each semester for up to five semesters 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 capped scholarship per semester awarded.

Early Childhood (Infant Toddler and Preschool) Certificate

The Early Childhood Certificate Scholarship program allows family home providers, child care center teachers, and directors the opportunity to enroll in up to 18 credit hours of coursework per year as they pursue an early childhood certificate. Upon successful completion of their contract, scholarship recipients receive a financial reward in the form of a bonus. Recipients agree to remain employed in their sponsoring program or continue to operate their home-based program for a commitment period of 1 year.

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.

Degree Attainment Bonuses

The TEACH Early Childhood® Degree Attainment Bonus Program rewards and recognizes TEACH recipients who have successfully completed at least one contract on either the Comprehensive associate, bachelor or BA Plus scholarship programs and as a result earn their degree. Graduates are awarded a one-time attainment bonus in exchange for agreeing to remain with their sponsoring employer for an additional year. Working Scholars recipients who graduated with a degree, participated on 3 or more semesters and are working in a licensed setting may qualify for this bonus too.

Newer Scholarship Models

- **Early Childhood Associate Degree Scholarship for Early Childhood Apprentices**

The Early Childhood Associate Degree Scholarship for Early Childhood Apprentices is a generous 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 and receive a bonus upon successful completion of their contract. Apprentices agree to remain employed in their sponsoring program for an additional year.

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

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