

What is the Associate Degree Scholarship for Early Childhood Apprentices?

The Associate Degree Scholarship for Early Childhood Apprentices is specifically designed for early childhood apprentices working in licensed programs enrolled in a registered apprenticeship program in North Carolina. Registered early childhood apprenticeship programs are a strategy to help strengthen the pipeline into the early care and education workforce. Consideration may be made for employers not currently enrolled in a registered apprenticeship program. This scholarship program is available to early childhood apprentices to take courses at any of North Carolina’s community colleges that offer an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education. It is a partnership between the apprentice, employing center and TEACH Early Childhood® North Carolina.

What does the Associate Degree Scholarship for Early Childhood Apprentices provide?

In addition to counseling support, the Associate Degree for Early Childhood Apprentices Scholarship provides generous financial support for costs associated with tuition and fees, books, course access and release time and awards a bonus for increased education.

	Scholarship	Education	Compensation	Commitment
Recipient		Recipient completes 9-15 credit hours of coursework leading to an Associate Degree at a N.C. community college		Recipient will agree to work 1 year as apprentice in sponsoring center after the completion of 9-15 credit hours and award of bonus.
Employer	Provides 3 hours paid release time/week per semester		Issue \$100 bonus upon completion of contract	
TEACH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% tuition • 100% books • Access stipend • Reimburse 100% of release time at \$15.00/hour 		Issue \$575 bonus upon completion of contract	

Who is eligible to apply for the Associate Degree Scholarship for Early Childhood Apprentices scholarship?

Early childhood apprentices working in licensed programs are eligible to apply for this scholarship if they:

- Are working at least 30 hours per week in a NC licensed child care facility as an early childhood apprentice.
- Are currently enrolled in credit bearing coursework at the associate degree level or intend to enroll in community college courses in early childhood education.

What are the responsibilities of the scholarship recipient?

A scholarship recipient must attend classes regularly, successfully complete 9-15 credit hours, submit grades to TEACH and engage with their scholarship counselor while participating on the scholarship program.

What kind of employment commitment is the scholarship recipient required to make?

A scholarship recipient must be willing to remain with the employer for one year in exchange for receiving a monetary bonus.

What are the benefits of an Associate Degree Scholarship for Early Childhood Apprentices to a sponsoring program?

Sponsoring programs have no tuition expenses for the apprentice’s educational requirements and receive reimbursement for release time and a manageable compensation plan to help retain the apprentice.