



Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Ohio provides scholarships to teachers and family child care professionals to earn degrees and credentials in Early Childhood Education. The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project, now in 23 states, is designed to address three of the major issues in the field: education, compensation and turnover. T.E.A.C.H. has four components to the program: scholarship, education, compensation and commitment.

Scholarship Assistance is provided with the cost of tuition, books, and related educational expenses.

Education The T.E.A.C.H. scholar pursues an associate's degree in ECE or the Child Development Associate Credential (CDA).

Compensation As a reward for completing the scholarship, a raise or bonus is awarded.

Commitment In appreciation, the T.E.A.C.H. scholar agrees to remain in her position for up to a year.

The Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRRA) administers the scholarship program for Ohio.

You may be eligible for the CDA if:

- You are a family child care professional (certified with the county as a Type B provider or licensed by the state as a Type A provider) OR
- You are a center based teacher who is employed in a licensed early childhood program;
- You work at least 20 hours per week;
- You have worked for your employer at least six months;
- You earn less than \$15 per hour;
- You will commit to staying in your position for a minimum of six months after receiving your credential

This scholarship pays \$300 of the \$325 National Council for Professional Recognition application fee (you pay \$25) and provides a \$100 bonus upon completion of the credentialing process.

You may be eligible for assistance with an Associate Degree if:

- You are a center based teacher whose center has a Step Up to Quality star rating. For information about Step Up to Quality, log on to www.stepuptoquality.org; OR
- You are a certified Type B provider in Cuyahoga, Franklin, or Montgomery County; OR
- You are a center teacher in Cuyahoga County;
- You work at least 30 hours per week;
- You have worked for your employer at least one year;
- You earn less than \$15 per hour
- You will commit to staying at the center for a minimum of one year for each year of your scholarship

Funding for scholarships is available from a variety of sources, including the Ohio Department of Job and Family Service and local foundations.

What are the details of the associate degree scholarship?

- T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Ohio pays 80% of the tuition – the center pays 10%, the scholar pays 10%, a family child care professional pays 20%
- T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Ohio pays 80% of the cost of books; scholar pays 20%
- Scholar receives a stipend for travel expenses each term he/she is in class
- Program/family child care professional is eligible for assistance in paying a substitute when the scholar must miss work due to class/study commitment
- A "completed" contract requires that a scholar successfully completes 9 semester or 12 quarter hours each year
- A "completed" contract requires that a scholar remain in his/her current position (program or home) one year following the end of the contract
- Upon completing a contract, T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Ohio will pay the scholar a bonus (paid in 2 installments) and the early childhood program agrees to pay a bonus or provide a raise

What is the benefit of participating in T.E.A.C.H.?

A better environment for our children! Research shows that higher education for the early childhood professional fosters a deeper professional interest in children, thereby reducing turnover and promoting a higher quality of care.

What is the benefit of participation to colleges and universities?

Colleges and universities will see enrollment grow, as more early childhood teachers become eligible for a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship through Step Up To Quality. More associate degree programs offering a Pre-K license are needed to partner with T.E.A.C.H. to meet the scholarship demand. T.E.A.C.H. also supports the scholar during his/her enrollment through counseling.

What is the relationship between the colleges/universities and T.E.A.C.H.?

A partnership is established between the educational institution and T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Ohio. The ECE department, the registrar and the bursar's offices work with the T.E.A.C.H. Counselors to assure a smooth process of counseling, scheduling, and payment.

How do I find out more?

Detailed information and printable applications for both CDA and AA scholarships may be found at <http://www.occrra.org/TEACH.htm>.



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