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Madison, WI 53703

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60/11

improving the qualifications of
early childhood and
school-age care teachers
by linking
education,
compensation, and
commitment
in partnership between
scholarship recipient, and
T.E.A.C.H.



“When a teacher has experienced the growth and affirmation that comes with learning what is new in the field and has had the opportunity to network with other professionals, she is ready to face the challenges that the job presents.”

—Child Care Teacher,
T.E.A.C.H. Scholar

Laying the foundation for a lifetime of learning is important work. A well-educated, well-compensated, and stable child care workforce is a key to success. By awarding scholarships to help individuals who are currently working with children to take courses towards a degree or credential in early childhood education, T.E.A.C.H. strives to achieve these goals:

- n To promote professional development of the child care workforce by increasing education and compensation.
- n To improve the quality of care and education in child care centers, Head Start programs, family child care homes and school-age care programs by reducing turnover of the workforce.
- n To create a model of partnership for improving the quality of Wisconsin child care and early education programs.

BENEFICIARIES

Scholarship Recipients are supported financially to achieve their professional development goals. Recipients increase their knowledge as they attend classes and are rewarded with a bonus or wage increase.

Early Care and Education Programs benefit by having staff members who are more knowledgeable about how children grow and learn, and more skilled in putting knowledge into practice. Programs are also more likely to retain staff longer which enhances overall quality, stability, and marketability.

Children benefit by having consistent relationships with teachers and providers who are committed to their profession. Through specialized training, scholarship recipients are more likely to be sensitive and responsive to the individual developmental needs of children and supportive of their families.

Teacher
Education
And
Compensation
Helps

T.E.A.C.H.
Early Childhood®
WISCONSIN
Scholarship
Program

COMMITMENT OF PARTNERS

The T.E.A.C.H. program provides:

- The majority of the cost of tuition and books.
- A per semester travel stipend for the scholarship recipient.
- A bonus for the recipient upon completion of a scholarship contract.
- Counseling and administrative support for the recipient and the sponsoring program.
- Reimbursement to the sponsoring program for a portion of the release time it is required to provide the scholarship recipient.
- Reimbursement of 75% of a credential assessment fee, for a fee of up to \$500.

Sponsoring programs agree to:

- Contribute a portion of the cost of tuition.
- Give the participating recipient paid release time each semester, half of which is typically reimbursed by T.E.A.C.H.
- Award the participating recipient a bonus or raise upon completion of the scholarship contract, unless an exception is noted in the contract.

Scholarship recipients agree to:

- Contribute a portion of the cost of tuition and books.
- Pay the credential assessment fee if applicable. T.E.A.C.H. will reimburse 75% of this cost for fees up to \$500.
- Attend classes and successfully complete courses with a grade of "C-" or better.
- Remain, upon completion of a contract, in the sponsoring program or the child care field for 6 months to two years as specified in the contract.

QUESTIONS?

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Wisconsin

WISCONSIN EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION

744 Williamson St., Suite 200

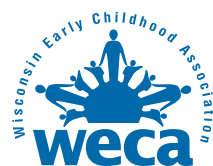
Madison, WI 53703

608-240-9880, option 3

800-783-9322, option 3

teach@wisconsinearlychildhood.org

wisconsinearlychildhood.org



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®
Wisconsin is a licensed program of
Child Care Services Association.



The more I learn, the more committed I am to stay in the field. I feel more professional and not like this is just a part time, temporary career."

—FCC Provider, T.E.A.C.H. Scholar

ELIGIBILITIES

Child care center teachers, Head Start staff, family child care providers, school-age care providers, center directors and administrators who meet the following criteria may be eligible for a scholarship:

- Have a desire to complete credit-based coursework in one of the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship models.
- Work at least 25 hours per week in a full time program that is licensed or legally exempt, or in the case of family child care, licensed or certified. For part-time programs and programs licensed exclusively to serve school-age children, call the WECA office to speak to a scholarship counselor to determine eligibility.
- Have the support of your sponsoring program and be employed by that program for a minimum of 3 months prior to application.
- Live, work, and plan to attend school in Wisconsin.
- Have a high school diploma or GED.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To request a scholarship application, fill out the form on the next page and mail or fax it to T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Wisconsin/WECA, 744 Williamson St., #200, Madison, WI 53703. This form can also be accessed online at wisconsinearlychildhood.org. Please keep a copy of your application request for your records and mail the original.

A scholarship application will be mailed once your request is received. Upon receipt of your completed application, a scholarship counselor will notify you within 6–8 weeks regarding your eligibility into the scholarship program. At that time a counselor will send you contracts, assist you in choosing coursework, and explain the registration and reimbursement process. No payments can be made until a signed contract is returned to WECA.

CHOOSE FROM 4 SCHOLARSHIP MODELS

1 • Credential Scholarship

Scholarship recipients have two years to complete the coursework required of one of the following four credentials now available. Upon completion of coursework, a portfolio or "final project" is presented to The Registry Commission which awards the following credentials:

Wisconsin Infant Toddler Professional Credential consists of 12 credits. This specialization can provide an excellent introduction to the care and education of infants and toddlers, or may complement a degree already earned.

Wisconsin Professional Credential for Child Care Administrators consists of 18 credits. This specialization can be helpful to new and veteran directors and administrators, family child care providers, and school-age care administrators. This credential may complement a degree already earned.

Wisconsin Preschool Professional Credential consists of 18 credits, representing five courses selected from the Wisconsin Technical College statewide curriculum for an Associate Degree, plus a capstone experience. This credential could be an entry point for achieving an Associate degree.

Wisconsin Inclusion Credential consists of 12 credits. As the newest credential, this specialization is designed to build the skills, knowledge, resources and attitudes to successfully work with all children, including those with special needs.

2 • The 3-8 Credit Scholarship

This is the most versatile of all scholarships; recipients contract to complete 3 to 8 credits of core curriculum Early Childhood Education courses in a one-year (three-semester) time period. Scholarship recipients might use this model to: meet entry-level licensing requirements, satisfy training required for a CDA (Child Development Associate)

Credential or the Wisconsin School Age Credential, test one's comfort with re-entering school, take courses for enrichment purposes or to strengthen an aspect of one's work, complete coursework needed to finish a degree, or achieve the Registry level needed to be eligible for the R.E.W.A.R.D.™ Stipend Program. Coursework should be taken at Wisconsin technical colleges, unless students have previously completed an Associate Degree, in which case courses may be taken at a Wisconsin university or private college.

3 • Associate Degree Scholarship 4 • Bachelor Degree Scholarship

These scholarships are for early childhood and school age professionals pursuing an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education, or for those applicants who have previously completed an Associate Degree and wish to pursue a Bachelor Degree in Early Childhood Education. School age providers can pursue a degree in Elementary Education, Recreation or Physical Education. Scholarship recipients contract to complete 9 to 18 credits or 19-plus credits in a one-year (three-semester) time period. In addition to core curriculum courses in early childhood education, students may use scholarship funds for one general education course per scholarship contract. Scholarship contracts may be renewed once per year as funding allows and sponsorship of one's program continues.

Applicants of the Associate and Bachelor Degree Scholarships must also apply for federal financial aid and accept any grants awarded (loans and/or work study do not have to be accepted). T.E.A.C.H. scholarships will supplement this financial assistance; if you are NOT awarded federal grants, you can still receive a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship.

REQUEST FOR A SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Wisconsin ZIP _____

This mailing address is for my:

Home Work — Agency Name _____

Email _____

Work Phone (_____) _____

Home Phone (_____) _____

I would like an application for this scholarship model:

Credential Scholarship Associate Degree

3-8 Credit Model Bachelor Degree

I am requesting a scholarship for the position of:

Family Child Care Provider Center Employee

Employee of a Family Child Care Provider Center Owner

MAIL OR FAX THIS FORM TO:

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® WISCONSIN/WECA,

744 Williamson St., Suite 200, Madison, WI 53703

Fax: 608-240-9890

This form can also be found online at wisconsinearlychildhood.org.