



TEACH Early Childhood® Pennsylvania Scholarship Types

TEACH (Teacher Education And Compensation Helps) **Early Childhood® Pennsylvania** offers a variety of scholarship options to help early childhood professionals complete course work toward a degree in early childhood education (ECE) and increase their compensation. TEACH is administered by the Pennsylvania Child Care Association (PACCA) in Pennsylvania.

General Eligibility Criteria

PACCA offers various TEACH Scholarship models to meet the needs of the early care and education workforce. In general, eligible applicants must:

- work a minimum of 25-30 hours per week directly with children in a DHS-certified child care, program.
- make \$21.63 or less an hour (\$25 or less per hour for directors) and
- be interested in pursuing coursework at a partnering college/university toward a degree and/or teacher certification in ECE.
- bachelor's degree applicants must have at least 55 transferable credits toward an associate degree in ECE; be eligible for in-state admission to their college/university and have worked in child care in PA for at least one year.

Other Considerations:

- Scholarship awards are dependent upon availability of funds and priorities of funders.
- **Other eligibility criteria may apply and are subject to change without notice.**

The following provides more information on the scholarship types available:

Associate Degree Scholarships

The Associate Degree scholarship offers early childhood teachers the opportunity to enroll in 9-15 credits per year to pursue coursework toward a degree in ECE or an equivalent (e.g. Child & Family Studies.) Upon successful completion of each contract year, scholarship recipients receive a raise and/or a bonus and agree to continue working in their sponsoring ECE program or continue operation of their family child care home for an additional year.

Bachelor's Degree Scholarships

The Early Childhood Bachelor's Degree scholarship allows early childhood professionals the opportunity to enroll in 9-15 credit hours per contract year toward a bachelor's degree in ECE or an equivalent (e.g. Child Development) at a partnering college/university. This scholarship covers both certification and non-certification bachelor's degree programs. Upon successful completion of each contract year, scholarship recipients receive either a raise or bonus and in return agree to remain employed with their sponsoring program or continue operation of their family child care home for an additional year. Recipients also agree to remain employed in the early childhood field for an additional year after the final commitment year to the employer is fulfilled.

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Certification Only Scholarships

The Early Childhood Certification Only Scholarship assists teachers in earning their PA Early Childhood Education (PreK-4) teaching certificate. Eligible applicants must already have earned a bachelor's degree and may use this scholarship to earn Level I OR Level II teaching certification. Scholarship recipients can enroll in 12-18 credits hours each year and will receive a bonus after successfully completing each contract. Recipients agree to remain employed with their sponsoring program or continue operation of their family child care home for one additional year following completion of each contract.

Student Teaching Only Scholarships

The Student Teaching Only Scholarship is an add-on scholarship model that assists teachers in completing their student teaching experience and obtaining a bachelor's degree and/or PA teacher certification in ECE. This scholarship is available for recipients already enrolled in a TEACH Bachelor Degree or Certification Only Scholarship. Recipients receive a stipend during their student teaching semester(s) to help with lost wages and/or expenses. Additionally, recipients must remain employed at their sponsoring program for a minimum of 10 hours per week or 150 hours during the student teaching semester(s.)

First Step/Last Step Scholarships

The First Step/Last Step Scholarship provides financial support to early childhood professionals who want and/or need to take only a couple of courses toward or to obtain a degree in early childhood education or an equivalent. This TEACH scholarship option is only available to a recipient one time during the individual's pursuit of their degree and allows the recipient to take 3-6 credits at a partnering college/university. Scholarship recipients must remain with their sponsoring employer for 9 months after completion of the contract in exchange for a bonus.

QUESTIONS?

Visit PACCA's website at https://www.pacca.org/teach_scholarship.php for more information on:

- Scholarship Requirements & Supports
- Partnering Colleges & Universities
- Brochures & Applications

Or contact a TEACH Scholarship Counselor at (717) 657-9000 or teachinfo@pacca.org



TEACH Early Childhood® Pennsylvania is a licensed program of Child Care Services Association and is administered by the Pennsylvania Child Care Association (PACCA).



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OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT
AND EARLY LEARNING

TEACH Early Childhood® Pennsylvania is supported by the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) of [Pennsylvania's Department of Human Services \(DHS\)](#) and [Pennsylvania's Department of Education \(PDE\)](#).