



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: If I already qualify for financial aid, what benefits, if any are there to apply for the T.E.A.C.H. Program?

A: T.E.A.C.H. encourages all applicants to apply for federal financial aid (ex. Pell Grant). If awarded, you may still be eligible for the T.E.A.C.H. bonus, center sponsored bonus and travel stipend.

Q: What kind of commitments are programs required to make?

A: Programs are required to pay a portion of the tuition costs. Each program must award a bonus upon completion of the scholarship requirements, and must give the recipient paid release time from work to attend classes or study (in some instances).

Q: What kind of commitments are recipients required to make?

A: Each recipient must pay a portion of the cost of the tuition, and must attend and successfully complete all courses. Recipients must remain at the sponsoring center for six months to one year following the scholarship year.

Q: What is the minimum and maximum number of credits T.E.A.C.H. will allow throughout the year?

A: Scholarship recipients must commit to take a minimum of nine (9) credit hours and a maximum of 15 credit hours per year at a community college.

Q: I am currently enrolled in DES Pathways Project. Will I still qualify for the T.E.A.C.H. Program?

A: No. Both T.E.A.C.H. and Pathways are state funded programs, therefore concurrent participation in both is not permitted.

Q: Where can I go to college and what kinds of classes may I take?

A: Each scholarship recipient works toward her or his own individual professional goals within the Early Childhood Education field. T.E.A.C.H. has partnered with most colleges in the state to allow recipients to choose their coursework. Students will work closely with their selected college to determine the required coursework.

Q: Do all individuals who work in a child care center qualify for the T.E.A.C.H. Program, and what is the minimum number of hours I have to work in order to qualify for the TEACH Program?

A: In an effort to improve the quality and consistency of child care, T.E.A.C.H. welcomes individuals

who work directly with children ages 0-5, including center teachers, assistant teachers, directors, assistant directors and family child care providers and owners. **Note:** In order to qualify for the Associates Degree Scholarship you must work at least thirty (30) hours per week in a regulated center or home. For the CDA Assessment Scholarship the minimum hours worked per week is twenty (20).

Q: How long does it take for T.E.A.C.H. to process my application?

A: Once all required documents have been submitted, it typically takes less than five working days to process an application. Missing paycheck stubs, agency profile forms and incomplete applications are the most common cause of delays in application processing.

Q: Will T.E.A.C.H. reimburse me for classes and books I have already paid for in the current semester?

A: Yes, upon the completion of "Form B" and submission of original receipts.

Q: Are CDA courses covered under the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship?

A: No. T.E.A.C.H. will pay a significant portion of the CDA Assessment, but does not cover its coursework.

Q: I currently make more than \$15.00 per hour, but only work 9 months out of the year. Would I still qualify?

A: You may still qualify. T.E.A.C.H. can annualize your salary to reflect an adjusted hourly income.

Q: Am I required to take all six (6) hours of paid release time every week?

A: No. You may save your hours throughout the semester. We encourage all recipients to communicate openly with their director in order to create a strategy for paid release time.