

**TEACH Prog Overview**  
**(The Children's Movement - Future Call**  
**Marth G. - Jan 2025)**

# Exploring High-Level Training and Professional Learning Opportunities with the TEACH Early Childhood<sup>®</sup> Scholarship Program

*TEACH is a licensed program of Early Years (Chapel Hill, NC).*



*Si necesita una traducción o explicación en español, por favor llámenos.*

# A Little Introduction...

## **Martha Grant**

Workforce Initiatives Coordinator and TEACH Counselor

Has worked with the Children's Forum for over 9 years

- Started as a WAGE\$ Counselor then moved to TEACH Scholarship

Completed her Early Childhood studies at the Metropolitan University in Puerto Rico

Worked as an Early Childhood and Elementary Teacher before moving to Florida in 2014

Has presented at numerous in-person conferences and virtual events including:

- One Goal Summer Conference
- ELC of Hillsborough Teacher's Night Out
- Florida Family Child Care Home Association Annual Conference (FFCCHA)
- FLAEYC Annual Conference



# A Little Introduction...



## What the Research Shows...

Studies indicate that early learning experiences play a crucial role in brain development.

Data also supports the idea that prioritizing high-quality and meaningful early experiences is more effective than addressing behavioral or academic issues later with older children.

Benefits to children with a more stable early learning workforce include:

- Deepened teacher knowledge of individual children
- Increased teacher understanding of child development
- Smoother developmental progress and more secure attachments for children
- Ease in transition to elementary school (kindergarten readiness)

**Economists estimate a return of \$4-\$12 for every \$1 spent on early childhood education**





## What the Research Shows...

Average weekly wages for the child care services sector were **54 percent below the national average** for weekly wages in the third quarter of 2023 (\$609 compared to \$1,328).

Child care workers are more likely than workers in other industries to fall below the poverty line.

Attracting and retaining qualified staff has become increasingly difficult throughout the child care sector.

***-From the U.S. Department of Labor Guidance on Supportive Services for Child Care and Long-Term Care (2024)***

**“Addressing the need for affordable, accessible, reliable, and high-quality child care requires ensuring a well-compensated, well-supported child care workforce.”**

# Continuing Education & Lifelong Learning for Our State's ECE Workforce

The TEACH Early Childhood® Scholarship program can assist with workforce development and help address many areas of concern for young children. TEACH works to ensure that our state's early learning and family child care educators have access to:

- high-level training and professional learning opportunities
- a more affordable and attainable college education
- increased compensation for their work
- attractive options and incentives to remain within the early learning profession

**TEACH is funded by the Florida Division of Early Learning and was awarded \$17 million for FY 2024-25**

*(increase from \$11.1 M in FY 2023-24)*



# What is TEACH?

The TEACH Early Childhood® Scholarship Program works in partnership with educators and their employers to cover the majority of the costs for tuition, books, and other educational expenses.

Scholarships include early learning credentials and renewals, college credits and certificates, and degrees in ECE or related fields.

# Who is Eligible?

**Teachers, directors, owners, or family child care educators may be eligible if they:**

- Have a high school diploma (regionally accredited) or GED
- Are employed by a licensed, license-exempt, or registered program in Florida (*ex. child care facilities, family child care homes, and out-of-school-time programs*)
- Work or volunteer a minimum of 20 hours a week with young children, birth through Pre-K (*at least 520 hours per year*)
- Have the support and sponsorship of their employer

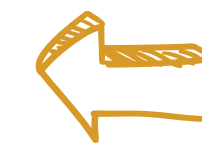


**TEACH Scholar - Theresa L.  
Family Child Care Home Educator  
Master's Degree  
(University of North Florida)**



# What Scholarships are Available Through TEACH?

- **Early Childhood Credentials** (initial and renewals)
  - Florida Staff Credential
  - Florida Director Credential
  - National CDA Assessment (fee only)
- **3 - 6 Hour Credit Model**
  - 1 or 2 ECE/CD college credit courses
  - Must be completed in one semester
- **College Credit Certificates**
  - 12 college credit program (View participating schools in ECE Training Directory on TEACH website)
    - Infant/Toddler
    - Preschool Specialization
    - Child Care Center Management
    - Early Childhood Care and Education Policy (graduate level)
- **College Degrees**
  - Associate
  - Bachelor's
  - Master's



Scan now to explore our scholarship models



## What Does TEACH Provide Scholars and Their Sponsoring Centers/Programs?

### Tuition and Books

The majority of the cost of **tuition (80% - 90%)** and **books (90% reimbursement)**

### Stipend\*

A student access stipend awarded each semester **(\$250 - \$300)**

### Bonus\*

A bonus awarded to scholars who complete their TEACH contracts **(\$500 to \$1,500)**

- Tiered bonuses for degree-seeking scholars
- Higher bonus amount for those who earn 13+ credit hours per contract

\*For eligible scholarship models

# What Does TEACH Provide Scholars and Their Sponsoring Centers/Programs?

## Technology Reimbursement\*

Computer/laptop reimbursement for active scholars  
(90% reimbursed, up to \$500 claim)

## Release Time & Reimbursement\*

- Scholars receive 3 hours of paid release time each week to attend classes, focus on their studies, or complete projects/assignments
- Sponsors receive a paid release time reimbursement equal to **FL minimum wage + \$2.00/hr (Will be \$15.00 for FY 2024-25)**

## Counselor

Dedicated TEACH Counselor to provide **academic, career pathway, and administrative support**

\*For eligible scholarship models



# TEACH website

[www.teach-fl.com](http://www.teach-fl.com)

## ECE Training Directory

Search for colleges, universities, and training programs that accept TEACH Scholarship

## Portal Login & Help

Create your Personal or Business Portal Account and view tutorial videos (*English and Spanish*)

## Apply for TEACH Today

View required application pieces and get started on your scholarship application (*requires log-in*)



Connect with TEACH  
on social media!



Home ▾ About Us ▾ Resources & Materials Current Scholars ECE Training Directory

## TEACH EARLY CHILDHOOD® FLORIDA

In 1989, Early Years and the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center partnered to conduct...

[READ MORE](#)

72,000  
Scholarships Awarded  
Since 1998

3.41  
Average GPA  
(Spring 2024)

615,203  
Children Served by TEACH  
Florida Scholars (2024)

VIEW OUR SCHOLARSHIP MODEL BOOKLETS

APPLY FOR TEACH TODAY!

PORTAL LOGIN  
CLICK HERE

BROWSE OUR ECE TRAINING DIRECTORY

PAY A TEACH BALANCE

# ECE Training Directory

Search the ECE Training Directory for colleges, universities, and training programs that accept TEACH Scholarship

Searched for: Associate programs

School	Type	Awards	Class Location	Language	Avg Tuition	Name of Program	T.E.A.C.H. eligible
<a href="#">Broward College</a>	Associate	College Credit	Online OR Classroom	English	\$\$	Early Childhood Education	Yes
<a href="#">Chipola College</a>	Associate	College Credit	Online	English	\$\$	Early Childhood Education	Yes
<a href="#">College of Central Florida</a>	Associate	College Credit	Online OR Classroom	English	\$\$	Early Childhood Education	Yes
<a href="#">Daytona State College</a>	Associate	College Credit	Online OR Classroom	English	\$\$	Early Childhood Education	Yes
<a href="#">Eastern Florida State College</a>	Associate	College Credit	Classroom	English	\$\$	Early Childhood Education	Yes
<a href="#">Florida Gateway College</a>	Associate	College Credit	Online	English	\$\$	Choose one or more options below to search	
<a href="#">Florida Southwestern State College</a>	Associate	College Credit	Online OR Classroom	English	\$\$		
<a href="#">Florida State College at Jacksonville</a>	Associate	College Credit	Online OR Classroom	English	\$\$		
<a href="#">Gulf Coast State College</a>	Associate	College Credit	Online OR Classroom	English	\$\$		
<a href="#">Hillsborough Community College</a>	Associate	College Credit	Online OR Classroom	English	\$\$		

Find by school name

Find by program

Find by distance within  of this address

Online programs only

# Portal Log-in & Help

- Create your Personal or Business Portal Account and view tutorial videos (*English and Spanish*)
- Portal account required for scholars and sponsors

The screenshot displays the Children's FORUM PORTAL login interface. On the left is a navigation menu with sections for ACCOUNT OPTIONS (LOGIN, Create Personal Account, Create/Update Business..., Create / Reset password, Select Language) and PUBLIC INFORMATION (Home, Portal Help, T.E.A.C.H., INCENTIVES, Membership, Thrive by 5, Alachua CTAC, ECE Directory). A yellow arrow points to the 'Portal Help' link. The main content area features the 'Login with Existing Account' heading, a 'By logging into this website, you agree to the Terms of Use' notice, and buttons for 'Create / Reset password' and 'Change Personal Account Email'. Below these are links for 'Login to Personal Account' and 'Login to Business Account'. A vertical 'CF Websites' button is on the right. At the bottom, a grid of six tiles provides quick access to: Roster/Mi Roster, Create Personal Account / Crear Cuenta Personal, Create Business Account, Reset Password - Personal Account / Restablecer Contraseña - Cuenta Personal, Program Demographics Survey / Demografía de Programas, and Update Demographics & Contact Info / Actualizar Demográfica y Información de Contacto.




# Apply for TEACH Today



View the list of required documents you will need to complete an application (log-in with your Personal Portal Account)




## TEACH Early Childhood® Scholarship Online Application

It takes about 15 minutes to complete the TEACH Scholarship Application. You have the option to save your application and come back later to finish.


You will need to create and login to your Children's Forum Portal account. Please gather the following materials or information in order to complete the application:

1. Email address used to create your personal portal account. 
2. Proof of residency
3. Proof of high school diploma (regionally accredited) or GED 
4. [DCF transcript](#) printed within 90 days
5. Copies of ECE certificates and/or college transcripts
6. Email address for the child care program where you are employed
7. DCF License number of the program where you are employed 
8. School or training program you wish to attend. Check the [ECE Education Directory](#) for options available to you.
9. Many scholarship models require your employer to sponsor you and verify employment. Sponsoring employers must create and utilize a Business Account on this website to provide this necessary information. Speak to your employer about TEACH before you apply.

 **No DCF license number?** If your employer does not have a DCF license number, please call our office for assistance. 

 **Diploma awarded outside the USA?** All foreign education documents must be translated and evaluated by an  [approved translation and evaluation agency](#). We require you to submit the evaluation and the original foreign document. 


[My Applications](#) [TEACH FAQs](#)



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EARLY CHILDHOOD®  
FLORIDA

A Program of Children's Forum, Inc.

TEACH Early Childhood® Scholarship Program  
Children's Forum  
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Toll Free (877) FL-TEACH [358-3224]  
Visit [teach-fl.com](http://teach-fl.com) for more information



**DIVISION OF**  
**Early Learning**  
LEARN EARLY. LEARN FOR LIFE.

# What Do I Need to Complete a TEACH Application?

- Personal email address to create a Children's Forum portal account
- Proof of residency
- Proof of high school diploma (regionally accredited) or GED
- DCF transcript dated within 90 days of submission
- Copies of ECE certificates and/or college transcripts
- Email address for the program where you are employed or volunteering  
([early learning center/facility/school or family child care home in Florida](#))
- DCF license number of the program where you are employed or volunteering
- Name of school or training program you wish to attend ([ECE Training Directory](#))
- Business Account for the employer ([sponsor to verify information](#))



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## Questions? Comments?



Contact our TEACH Team for more information:



877-FL-TEACH (877-358-3224)



[teach-fl.com](http://teach-fl.com)



[teachquestions@thechildrensforum.com](mailto:teachquestions@thechildrensforum.com)

[teachapplications@thechildrensforum.com](mailto:teachapplications@thechildrensforum.com)

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