FIRST THINGS FIRST COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Financial scholarships to support eligible individuals in completing a credential, associate degree, or bachelor’s degree in early childhood education or related field*

Scholarship Benefits

• Tuition, books, course and college fees, Child Development Associate (CDA) application and assessment fees
• Financial bonus upon achievement of education milestones during scholarship participation

Eligibility

• Early childhood professional working in Arizona with or on behalf of children birth through 5 (priority enrollment for those who work directly with young children who do not already have a degree)
• Minimum age as defined by college or university acceptance policy
• Earn $20.00 per hour or less
• Enrolled in the Arizona Early Childhood Workforce Registry
• Arizona resident
• Lawful presence in the United States per A.R.S §1-502

For scholarship information contact:

1.855.818.6613
info@thearizonaregistry.org

For information about the Arizona Early Childhood Career and Professional Development Network visit:

azearlychildhood.org

Administered by

*Child and Family Studies (CFS), Early Childhood Administration (ECA), Infant Toddler Development (ITD), Child Development (CD) Consumer Studies, Developmental Psychology, Elementary Education, Home Economics/Family and Consumer Sciences, Human Development, Human Ecology, Human Services, Nursing, Psychology, Public Health, Social Work, Sociology, and Special Education. This may include other fields as determined by FTF.
Scholarship Application Process

1. Identify a primary educational pathway with the support of a college advisor

2. Apply for Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) the first opportunity that the application period is available

3. Enroll in courses at an accredited** college or university (maximum of 24 credits per year):
   - Associate Degree in ECE or related field
   - Bachelor’s Degree in ECE or related field (regions may vary)
   - Business administration coursework
   - Developmental coursework necessary to complete a degree

4. Use the Arizona Early Childhood Workforce Registry* to:
   - Request payment for tuition
   - Request payment for book
   - Request payment for course and college fees
   - Request payment for CDA application and assessment fees
   - Send official transcripts with a ‘C’ or better after course completion

Our Commitment
The scholarship program will provide the following bonuses at education milestones during scholarship participation:

$150 when a scholar achieves the following for the first time:
   - 6 credit hours in ECE, Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE), Child and Family Studies (CFS), Early Childhood Administration (ECA), Infant Toddler Development (ITD), or Child Development (CD)

$150 when a scholar achieves the following for the first time:
   - National Child Development Associate Credential awarded by the Council for Professional Recognition in Washington, DC

$150 when a scholar achieves the following for the first time:
   - 12 credit hours toward a degree in ECE/ECSE/CFS/ECA/ITD/CD

$300 when a scholar achieves:
   - 24 credit hours toward a degree in ECE/ECSE/CFS/ECA/ITD, or CD

$900 when a scholar achieves:
   - An Associate degree in ECE or related field, - OR -
   - An Associate degree in non-ECE major with 24 hours in ECE/ECSE/CFS/ECA/ITD/CD

$1,500 when a scholar achieves:
   - A Bachelor’s degree in ECE or related field, - OR -
   - A Bachelor’s degree in non-ECE major including 24 credits in ECE/ECSE/CFS/ECD/ITD or CD

Your Commitment
To continue receiving scholarship benefits, you must complete the following:

- During first year of scholarship participation, use the Registry to enroll in and complete the following:
  - FTF Champion Training - OR -
  - Health and Safety Specialist Training

- During second year and beyond of scholarship participation:
  - Conduct an FTF Champion presentation - OR -
  - Mentor a new College Scholarships Participant - OR -
  - Attend regional council meetings to present your education story - OR -
  - Work with the college scholarship administrative home to present the scholarship program at local conference or in the community - OR -
  - Identify an activity that will contribute in a meaningful way to the field, as approved by the administrative home

- Work in the field
  - For 6 months*** after achieving a CDA credential
  - For one year*** after achieving an Associate’s degree
  - For two years*** after achieving a Bachelor’s degree

*The Arizona Early Childhood Workforce Registry is accessed through the Professional Development Website (azearlychildhood.org)
***Full time paid work or volunteering with or on behalf of children birth to age 5 in the region funding the scholarship

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