



# ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD

Career and Professional Development Network

## 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](mailto:info@thearizonaregistry.org)

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

[azearlychildhood.org](http://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

## 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

## 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

\*The Arizona Early Childhood Workforce Registry is accessed through the Professional Development Website ([azearlychildhood.org](http://azearlychildhood.org))

\*\* Higher Learning Commission (<http://www.chea.org/Directories/regional.asp> <http://www.ncahlc.org/>)

\*\*\*Full time paid work or volunteering with or on behalf of children birth to age 5 in the region funding the scholarship