



Qualistar Early Learning

3607 Martin Luther King Blvd Denver CO 80205

Phone: (303) 339-6800 Toll Free: (888) 580-8994 Fax: (303) 339-6834 E-mail: teach@qualistar.org

Dear Group Leader Candidate,

Enclosed is an application packet for the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship Program. Before applying, read this entire application packet to ensure you understand the benefits and responsibilities of this scholarship. T.E.A.C.H. is a comprehensive program encompassing much more than paying for tuition. While T.E.A.C.H. helps you attain your educational goals, it also provides cash bonuses in an effort to increase child care wages, and it works to reduce turnover in the child care field by requiring a commitment from you to remain at your current child care program or in the field of child care after completion of the coursework. In order to be considered for a scholarship, you must submit:

1. All 3 pages of the application, fully completed
2. The appropriate Center Participation Agreement (Model 1 or 2), signed by your Director
3. Income verification for each source of household income

Complete applications must be submitted at least six weeks prior to intended enrollment. Incomplete applications will result in a delay of consideration or denial of a scholarship. At times there may be a waiting list for scholarships.

Once we receive your application, we will review it to determine your eligibility and will notify you in writing whether you have been accepted, denied, whether we need more information, or whether you've been added to a waiting list. The following are the main criteria we use to determine eligibility. If you have any questions or believe you have a valid exception to these criteria, please call our office before submitting the application.

- **Must be working in a licensed child care program full-time as defined by that child care program**
- **Must have worked for 90 days at that center**
- **Income must not exceed \$17.00/hour for teachers, aides and assistants**
- **Sponsorship of employer**
- **Please note: This scholarship follows the Colorado state licensing requirements. The T.E.A.C.H. Group Leader Scholarship covers 80% of tuition and fees for ECE 101 and one other three credit ECE course.**

The completed forms can be returned by mail to T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® or by fax (address and number at top). If you are approved for a scholarship, you will receive a contract and further instructions by mail. We thank you for your interest in T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®. We look forward to working with you to increase the professionalism and quality of Early Childhood Education in Colorado!

Sincerely,

Kacee Austin

T.E.A.C.H. Coordinator

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®

Facts and Program Information



What is T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®?

T.E.A.C.H. (Teacher Education and Compensation Helps) Early Childhood® provides educational scholarship opportunities for child care professionals. Participants receive scholarships to earn undergraduate level Early Childhood Education Credentials, an Early Childhood Associates Degree or an Early Childhood Bachelor's Degree.

Why is T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® needed in Colorado?

- Research indicates that both higher education and specialized training in early childhood education are critical indicators of quality in a child's care experience.
T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® assists teachers, directors, and family child care providers in going back to school to earn more education.
- Colorado child care professionals receive very low wages. On average, child care teachers earn between \$8 and \$13 per hour.
T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® provides a financial bonus upon completion of a scholarship contract.
- Colorado has a child care center staff turnover rate that has been estimated anywhere between 24 - 67% per year (depending on how it is calculated), compared to an average of 9.6% for all U.S. companies.
T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® requires that participants agree to remain in child care for six months to one year following the successful completion of the educational requirements, thereby lowering turnover.

Who can participate in T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®?

The scholarship recipient must meet the following criteria:

1. A qualified applicant must be employed in a licensed child care program, full time as defined by that child care program
2. Income is not to exceed \$17/hour for center teachers, aides and assistants.
3. The applicant must have a minimum of 90 days experience working in their current child care program.
4. Employers must sponsor center employees' scholarships. The employer must agree to pay 5 to-20% of the scholarship tuition, and to pay a financial bonus upon completion of the work commitment based on the Model (see Matrix for breakdown)

What are the responsibilities of the scholarship recipient?

The applicant agrees to complete a 6 semester credit hours with grades of C or better at a participating accredited college within one year. They also commit to a minimum of six months of continued employment at the sponsoring program or in the field of early childhood upon completion of the educational contract requirements.

How are the scholarships funded?

A partnership exists between the participant, the sponsoring child care program and T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®. The attached scholarship matrix provides the dollar amounts each partner contributes under each type of scholarship. Currently, T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® is funded by CCDBG/CCDF funds through the Colorado Department of Human Services' Division of Child Care, by various Early Childhood Councils and/or Consolidated Child Care Pilots, by counties and cities and by Colorado Foundations

What are the goals of T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®?

- To increase the knowledge base of teachers working with young children, thus improving the care children receive;
- To encourage child care programs to support the continuing education of their staff;
- To provide increased compensation that is directly related to increased education;
- To reduce staff turnover by requiring a work commitment to the child care program or field from each scholarship recipient;
- To provide a sequential professional development path for child care professionals;
- To generate a collaborative funding base for T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® through state and federal funds, foundations, and additional corporate partnerships;
- To create a model of partnership for improving the quality of care that children receive in Colorado.

For scholarship applications and additional information contact the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Coordinator:

3607 Martin Luther King Blvd Denver CO 80205 Phone: 303-339-6807 or toll free 888-580-8994

E-mail: teach@qualistar.org Web: www.qualistar.org Fax: 303-339-6834

Colorado T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarship Matrix: GLQ

	Center Group Leader Model 1	Center Group Leader Model 2***
Eligibility Requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be working full time* in a licensed child care program • Must have worked for 90 days at the current child care center • Earning less than \$17/hour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be working full time* in licensed child care program • Must have worked for 90 days at the current child care center • Earning less than \$17/hour
	Center Employee 80% T.E.A.C.H. 15% Center 5% Employee	Center Employee 80% T.E.A.C.H. 15% Employee 5% Center
Expenses	\$225 Books and/or approved related expenses \$50 Travel	\$225 Books and/or approved related expenses \$50 Travel
Education	6 credits as required for Group Leader Qualifications	6 credits as required for Group Leader Qualifications
Commitment	6 months of continued employment at current child care program	6 months of continued employment in the field of child care
Compensation	\$50 bonus from T.E.A.C.H. after coursework, \$25 bonus from T.E.A.C.H. after work commitment \$25 bonus from the center after work commitment	\$50 bonus from T.E.A.C.H. after coursework, \$50 bonus from T.E.A.C.H. after work commitment

All classes must be taken from a regionally accredited Colorado college that partners with T.E.A.C.H.

*“Full time” means full time as defined by that child care program.

**These dollar amounts are based on the *average* cost of tuition at Colorado’s major community colleges for traditional classes.

***A GLQ model can only be utilized one time per individual.

****Please note that Online tuition rates are higher. Online courses can be approved through T.E.A.C.H., but please discuss these rates with your center prior to registration.

*****T.E.A.C.H. reserves the right to cap its tuition assistance at 80% of the average in-state rate for traditional (not online) classes in times of reduced funding

*****Exemptions to the income limit can be made for applicants living and working in areas where the cost of living is unusually high.



Scholarship Application for Group Leader Candidates

3607 Martin Luther King Blvd Denver CO 80205

Phone: (303) 339-6800 Toll Free: (888) 580-8994 Fax: (303) 339-6834 E-mail teach@qualistar.org

Date: _____ Social Security #: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____ (Cell/other) _____

Email Address (if used): _____

Employment

Center of Employment: _____ Center License #: _____

Job Title (check one): Teacher Assistant Teacher Teacher Aide
 Other _____

Hours per week: _____ Hourly wage: _____ Date of employment: ____/____/____

With what age group do you work? (Check one): Combination
 Infants/Toddlers
 Preschoolers
 School-age

Do you work year-round? Yes No If not, please explain: _____

Demographic Information

(The following questions are optional and will be used for reporting purposes only)

Family Size: _____ Family Type: Single, no kids Married, no kids
 Single parent Married parent

Race: Black/African American White/European American
 Hispanic/Latino/Latina American Indian/Native American
 Asian Pacific Islander Multiracial Other _____

How did you find out about T.E.A.C.H.®? Presentation Mailing
 R&R Agency College
 Center/Director/Coworker Qualistar Web Site
 Early Childhood Council
 Other _____

Educational Background

High School	Dates Attended	Diploma	G.E.D.
		___ Yes ___ No	___ Yes ___ No

College/Technical	Dates Attended	Major (s)	Degree or # of Credits

Which college would you like to attend? _____

Which semester would you like to begin your T.E.A.C.H. scholarship? Summer Fall Spring

For which Group Leader Qualification Model are you applying? Model 1 Model 2

Remember, you can finish all the required credits within one semester or spread them out for as long as one calendar year. You may then reapply for another type of scholarship if you wish to continue toward your educational goal. The GLQ model can only be utilized one time per individual.

Are you currently involved in an Early Childhood program at a Colorado college? Yes No

If yes, which degree/credential are you working on? _____

Are you currently taking or have ever taken ECE 101 Yes No Currently

What are your personal and professional goals in early childhood education? Describe how a degree or credential will help you achieve these goals. _____

Is there anything else about yourself that you would like us to consider when reviewing this application?

Please list three personal or professional references.

Name	Address	Phone Number	Title/Relationship



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®
Scholarship Application - Statement of Income

Instructions: List all sources of income available to you.

You must provide verification for each source of income. This can include a letter from your employer or your most recent pay stub to verify earnings from your employment and your spouse's employment (if applicable). A statement from your ex-spouse or a court award letter can be used to verify child support.

Applicant's Income

- A. Gross Annual Earnings Job #1 \$ _____/year
- B. Name of Employer Job#1 _____
- C. Hours per Week Job#1 _____
- D. Gross Annual Earnings Job#2 \$ _____/year
- E. Name of Employer Job#2 _____
- F. Hours per Week Job#2 _____
- G. Are You a Student? Yes (go to H-J) No (go to K)
- H. Dollars from Current Scholarships \$ _____
- I. Dollars from Current Grants \$ _____
- J. Student Loan \$ _____
- K. Child Support/Spousal Maintenance \$ _____/month
- L. TANF/SSI \$ _____/month
- M. **Your Total Gross Income** \$ _____/year
- N. **Your Spouse's Gross Income** \$ _____/year
- O. **Total Gross Household Income** (Add lines M + N) \$ _____/year

Statement and Signature of Applicant

I attest to the fact that the information that I have provided is true and accurate. Based on this information I am applying to T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® for a scholarship to help pay for educational expenses.

Signature of Applicant

Date



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®
Center Participation Agreement
GLQ Model 1 Scholarship

Dear Director,

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®, a college scholarship program for early childhood professionals, requires the participation of each scholarship recipient's employing child care center. In the event that employee _____ is awarded a scholarship I understand that the center agrees to participate in the following ways:

1. Pay 15% of the cost of tuition on a per semester basis. The center will be responsible for collecting the recipient's 5% and for paying the college the full 20% within 30 days of receipt of an invoice from the college.
2. Pay the employee a \$25 bonus at the completion of the six-month work agreement. The scholarship recipient will remain an employee of the center for six months after successful completion of the 6 credits. The 6 credits may be completed within one semester or throughout the length of one calendar year.

Name of Center

Center Mailing Address

County: _____ License #: _____

Center Phone # _____ Director Phone # (if different) _____

Fax #: _____ Email address (if used): _____

Licensed Capacity: _____ Current Enrollment: _____ Desired Enrollment: _____

Center Auspice: Profit Nonprofit Head Start/*Head Start Vendor* # _____

NAEYC accredited: Yes No Other Accreditation: _____

Print Name of Authorized Signer (Director/Owner)

Title

Signature of Authorized Signer

Date



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®
Center Participation Agreement
GLQ Model 2 Scholarship

Dear Director,

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®, a college scholarship program for early childhood professionals, requires the participation of each scholarship recipient's employing child care center. In the event that employee _____ is awarded a scholarship I understand that the center agrees to participate in the following way:

Pay 5% of the cost of tuition on a per semester basis. The center will be responsible for collecting the recipient's 15% and for paying the college the full 20% within 30 days of receipt of an invoice from the college.

Name of Center

Center Mailing Address

County: _____ License #: _____

Center Phone # _____ Director Phone # (if different) _____

Fax #: _____ Email address (if used): _____

Licensed Capacity: _____ Current Enrollment: _____ Desired Enrollment: _____

Center Auspice: Profit Nonprofit Head Start/*Head Start Vendor* # _____

NAEYC accredited: Yes No Other Accreditation: _____

Print Name of Authorized Signer (Director/Owner) Title

Signature of Authorized Signer Date