



# 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 professionals working or volunteering in Arizona with or on behalf of children birth through 5, not yet in kindergarten (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**

# 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

# Get \$ for Going to School

The scholarship program will provide bonuses at education milestones during scholarship participation.\*\*\*\*

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

\*\* U.S. Department of Education (<http://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/>)

\*\*\* Full-time paid work or volunteering with or on behalf of children birth to age 5, not yet in kindergarten, in the region funding the scholarship.

\*\*\*\* Visit the AZ Early Childhood Career and Professional Development Network for more information (<http://azearlychildhood.org/advance-your-career/Scholarships%20and%20Incentives/>)