

Early Childhood Scholarships

Investing in early childhood professionals and their careers

The quality of New Mexico's early childhood programs and statewide system depends upon the caring, knowledgeable people who work with children and families. This is why the New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD) provides scholarship opportunities to make it possible for early educators and care providers to afford coursework leading to advanced credentials and degrees.



Benefits

- Scholarships are available to meet the needs of early childhood education and care professionals at all levels.
- Scholarship Coaches assist scholars along their career pathway.
- Create a personalized professional development plan.
- Awards include one year of funding with possibility of renewal.



Eligibility

Scholarships are based on a cost-share model and are open to New Mexico early childhood educators, administrators, and program directors who:

- Have a high school diploma or equivalent (GED/HSE).
- Are enrolled in a qualifying New Mexico higher education institution working toward an early childhood education degree or New Mexico Child Development Certificate.
- Work a minimum of 20 hours per week at a:
 - ♦ New Mexico licensed child care program;
 - ♦ State-funded PreK or early PreK program, such as Early Head Start and Head Start; or
 - ♦ State-funded home visiting or Family Infant Toddler (FIT) program.

How to Get Access

- Fill out the application form online at bit.ly/ec-scholarship-apply or bit.ly/ececd-beca en Español.
- Provide confirmation of FAFSA financial aid completion bit.ly/FAFSA-financial-aid.
- Once scholarship is awarded, begin work with an assigned coach.
- Remain eligible by meeting the requirements for grades and credit hours.

Available Scholarships

Associate's Degree or Certificate Scholarship

SUPPORTS:

- An Associate's degree (AA) in early childhood education or New Mexico Child Development Certificate (CDC)
- Home Visitors pursuing an AA in early childhood education, social work, counseling, or related courses

COVERS:

- 100% of tuition
- 100% of books

SPONSORING PROGRAM/ EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY:

- Weekly release time for scholar to attend class

SCHOLAR RESPONSIBILITY:

- Travel expenses
- Minimum of six credit hours per contract year
- C grade or higher in all classes

Bachelor's Degree Scholarship

SUPPORTS:

- Child care and PreK professionals pursuing a Bachelor's degree (BA) in early childhood education, social work, counseling, or related field
- Home visitors pursuing a BA in early childhood education or social work

COVERS:

- 100% of tuition
- 50% of books

SPONSORING PROGRAM/ EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY:

- Weekly release time for scholar to attend class

SCHOLAR RESPONSIBILITY:

- Travel expenses
- Minimum of six credit hours per contract year
- C grade or higher in all classes

Family Home Professional Scholarship

SUPPORTS:

Family/home child care professionals seeking

- CDC,
- AA, or
- BA

COVERS:

- 100% of tuition
- 100% of books

SCHOLAR RESPONSIBILITY:

- Travel expenses
- Minimum of six credit hours per contract year
- C grade or higher in all classes

SPONSORING PROGRAM/ EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY:

- Weekly release time for scholar to attend class

Master's Degree and Doctorate Scholarships

Graduate-level scholarships may become available, depending upon funding. Visit nmececd.org/scholarships for details.

ECECD works to connect New Mexico students with scholarships that support careers in the early childhood field.

Visit nmececd.org/scholarships for more information or to share an opportunity.



Early Childhood Scholarship Information & Contact:

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Additional information: nmececd.org/scholarships



NEW MEXICO

Early Childhood

Education & Care Department