



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®

WHAT is the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project?

- The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project is a comprehensive higher education scholarship strategy to improve the skills, knowledge and retention of the early childhood workforce.
- T.E.A.C.H. is a cost-sharing, business-friendly model for workforce development.
- T.E.A.C.H. requires accountability for recipients, has consistently met performance targets and is now being replicated in 21 other states and the District of Columbia.

WHY is the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project so important?

- Better-educated teachers are more effective in helping young children develop the knowledge and skills they need to be successful in school and meet the workforce needs of tomorrow.
- The early childhood workforce is a low-paid, under-educated field with high turnover.
- T.E.A.C.H. scholarships help low-income teachers working in child care programs afford the cost to attend college to improve their knowledge and skills. In exchange, teacher retention improves, and young children benefit from consistent, better-educated teachers.

HOW does the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project work?

- T.E.A.C.H., scholarships recipients and more than 1,800 child care businesses share the cost of a scholarship.
- T.E.A.C.H. scholarships help raise the quality of child care without increasing parent fees.
- 58 community colleges and 18 state and private universities partner with T.E.A.C.H. to increase access to early childhood coursework and degrees.

WHAT DIFFERENCE is the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project making?

- More than 4,775 early childhood educators working across NC with nearly 86,000 children received a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship in FY10.
- T.E.A.C.H. recipients complete an average of 15 credits a year, demonstrating mastery of college course content with a 3.1 GPA, while working full time in child care programs.
- The average annual turnover rate for T.E.A.C.H. recipients is 6%, significantly less than the turnover rate of the field at large.
- T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarships are helping to improve the statewide education levels and turnover rates of child care teachers.



North Carolina is a leader in early childhood education initiatives.



The N.C. Child Care Coalition: working to improve the quality and affordability of early childhood services in North Carolina:

Kaplan Early Learning Company • NC Early Childhood Assn • NC Assn for the Education of Young Children • NC Partnership for Children
NC Head Start Assn • Child Care Services Assn • Ctr for Community Self-Help • Covenant With NC's Children • NC Justice Ctr • United Way of NC
Easter Seals/UCP NC • NC Pediatric Society • NC-ADD • NC Institute for Child Development Professionals • NC Licensed Child Care Association
NC Interagency Coordinating Council and many regional and local child care agencies, child care providers and individuals.

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“T.E.A.C.H. has contributed to the success of our center. By participating in the T.E.A.C.H. Program, my center has been able to lower our turnover rate with teachers. The teachers have completed early childhood courses, which help retain our points in education for our license. We are a small, private center that needs the financial assistance to support our teachers in higher education.”

— Director, For-profit Center, Charlotte (Mecklenburg)



“The T.E.A.C.H. program has made it possible for me to go to school to become a better, and more informed teacher. Without this program I would not be able to afford to go to school. I never dreamed that I would be able to further my education. Thanks to the T.E.A.C.H. program I am able to make that dream come true. All my classes have given me the skills that I need to effectively lead and guide the children in my care, and to plan for their needs. Thank you for the T.E.A.C.H. program, and please know that it is very appreciated.”

—Teacher, Faith-based Center, Charlotte (Mecklenburg)



“T.E.A.C.H. means that I can reach my educational goals. I am able to get help with the high tuition costs. I am also able to get help with the high cost of books. I have opted for online classes, so the travel reimbursement helps pay the Road Runner bill. It is good to know that my own personal goal achievements are also accomplishments for the center and for the county. I know that this education will not only benefit myself but the children that I work with also.”

— Teacher, Faith-based Center, Burlington (Alamance)



“I have enjoyed the opportunity to go back to school through T.E.A.C.H. It has helped me to build a better business, and by taking classes I can implement what I’ve learned in my lessons on teaching the children.

— Family Child Care Provider, New Bern (Craven)

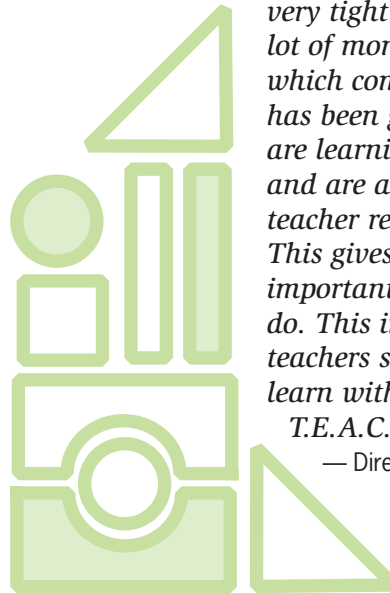
“TEACH helped me to get my education. With my salary and having a family, if not for TEACH, I would not have been able to afford to pay tuition. TEACH has helped in my quest to get a 2 yrs Associates Degree.”

—Teacher, For-profit Center, Forest City (Rutherford)



“Our teachers participating in the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Program would not have been able to further their education without this program. Most of our teachers are on a very tight budget since they do not make a lot of money and have families of their own which come first. The quality of our program has been greatly enhanced since our teachers are learning how to improve our classrooms and are also being taught about parent-teacher relationships and child development. This gives them confidence that they are important and are very good at what they do. This improves the morale of all of our teachers since participants share what they learn with others. I am very pleased with the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Program.”

— Director/Owner, For-profit Center, Greenville (Pitt)



A family child care provider and center owner shared her thoughts about how the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Project has benefited her. Before she received the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship she only had her high school diploma and did not have any additional education. She said that she started off by obtaining her early childhood and administrative credentials, proceeded on to take additional college courses and is now almost finished with her associate degree and is excited to be graduating soon.

T.E.A.C.H. has allowed her to take college classes which have taught her how to create lesson plans for the children in her care, run her business better and allowed her to be more professional. She says, “Without T.E.A.C.H. I know I never would have done it.” She is grateful for the assistance.

— Family Child Care Provider, Hope Mills (Cumberland)