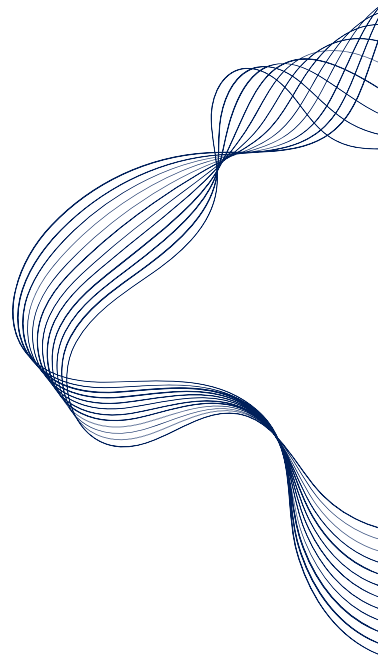


**BACK TO  
WORK**

# Summer 2023 Participant Newsletter



**100%**  
of participants  
were impacted  
by COVID-19



EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL  
LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

**Back to Work:**  
Early Childhood Education  
**Scholarship Program**

4891 Independence St., Suite 140 | Wheat Ridge, CO 80033 | Ph: (720) 899-3048 | [www.ecclacolorado.org/backtowork](http://www.ecclacolorado.org/backtowork)



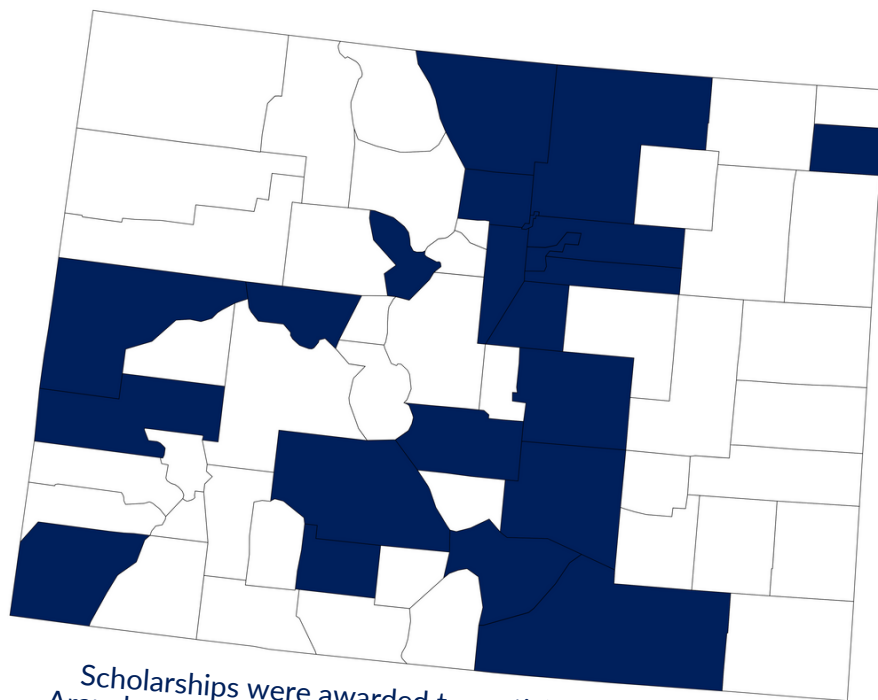
EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL  
LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

**BACK TO  
WORK**

ECCLA's Back to Work: Early Childhood Education Scholarship is a unique program that supports early childhood professionals who experienced an economic loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic and want to earn undergraduate-level degrees and certificates related to Early Childhood Education. Through the Back to Work Grant, ECCLA is proud to partner with the Colorado Department of Higher Education's COSI Scholarship Program to help provide the education and training you need for your next job in the Early Childhood profession! The Colorado Recovery Plan expands the Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative (COSI) grant to support Coloradans that have experienced an economic loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic or suffered another form of economic loss.

Across the state, there are only enough licensed child care services for 45 percent of the 256,000 kids birth to age six with working parents. There is a substantial increase in the need for early childhood teachers and leaders – between 33-43% (depending on job category) through 2025. Back to Work is a strategy that helps to support increased capacity and quality for young children while increasing education for professionals.

Back to Work supports recruitment and retention through \$3,500 scholarships to help professionals advance in their education and careers.



Scholarships were awarded to participants in Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, El Paso, Fremont, Huerfano, Jefferson, Larimer, Las Animas, Mesa, Montezuma, Montrose, Phillips, Pitkin, Pueblo, Rio Grande, Saguache, Summit, and Weld counties.

**BACK TO  
WORK**





EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL  
LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE



*Congratulations!*

## You are one semester closer to completing your Early Childhood Credential!

Another semester has come and gone, but you should be proud of your achievement and your continued dedication to make a difference in the lives of Colorado's children and families. As a reminder, **don't forget to submit expenses that need to be paid along with your schedule for the next semester.** If other expenses come up during the semester, just update your Expense Report and email Cameron! To update the Report, visit this [link](#), login to your account, and edit your Scholarship Packet.

Please reach out to Cameron Fall with any questions or concerns that you have throughout the semester. Cameron can support you in **any of the following areas:**

- Enrollment, registration, financial aid, scholarships, grants, understanding the total cost of obtaining your degree or certificate, [FAFSA](#) assistance, [CASFA](#) assistance and more!
- Navigating institutional barriers and academic hurdles along with social, wellness, familial, and personal concerns
- 1:1 support to ensure progression toward the completion of your degree or certificate
- Connection to various types of resources, career navigation and support, and support with transitioning back into the workforce

**Thank you for your hard work.** We see and appreciate all of the work you are doing. Feel free to reach out at any time with any questions or concerns!

**[Check out ECCLA's Scholarships & Grants!](#)**

*Thank You!*



# IMPACT

55 Recipients



*Congrats!*

165

Credits  
Completed

2.93

Average GPA

2

Degrees  
Completed

4

Certificates  
Completed

\$42,000



Scholarships  
Awarded



**Congratulations to Summer 2023 Graduates!**

**BACK TO  
WORK**



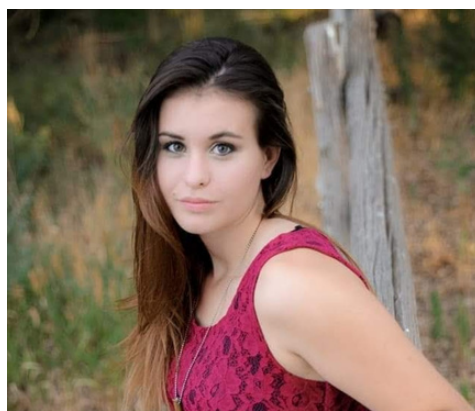
## VOICES FROM THE PROFESSION

Participants are at the heart of the Back to Work: Early Childhood Education Scholarship Program. **And their stories matter.**



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### Meet Brooke



The Back to Work Scholarship has impacted my time in college and my career in early childhood immensely. This scholarship helped pay for my tuition and rent while I was attending fall and spring semesters in college. My case worker gave me lots of helpful resources to continue my education and further my career. Thank you Back to Work Scholarship!



## VOICES FROM THE PROFESSION

Participants are at the heart of the Back to Work: Early Childhood Education Scholarship Program. **And their stories matter.**



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### Meet Christine



The Back to Work scholarship is allowing me to further my education to my Bachelor's degree while also supporting me currently in my Associate degree. Being able to have coaching to keep me on track and have support in my education is a very valuable part of my success in my future. I'm very thankful for programs like this that give opportunities for students like me striving for their passions.