



EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL
LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

Workforce Supports



Colorado is facing a critical period of building up our early care and education workforce as our child care sector faces incredible challenges which have been exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic. ECCLA supports multiple programs aiming to ensure Colorado's child care workforce is strengthened and sustainable so our children and families can access safe and reliable care options.

ECCLA's workforce supports through the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Colorado Scholarship, Early Childhood Coach Credential Scholarship, Developing Emerging Leaders Scholarship, and Family Child Care Home Facilities Improvement Grant aim to create pathways for professionals to attain educational credentials, build their businesses, and grow in their work.



The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Colorado Scholarship Program offers early childhood professionals a pathway to pursue higher education. Access to scholarships for early childhood education is a critical piece to a successful professional development pathway.

Early childhood professionals including directors, teachers, and family child care providers who meet criteria are eligible to apply. Additionally, early childhood professionals including coaches, substitutes, home visitors, assessors, consultants, professionals in early childhood-focused non-profits, and others that are not working in a program, but in the Early Childhood Profession in other capacities in Colorado who meet criteria are eligible to apply.

T.E.A.C.H. WAGE AND RETENTION IMPACT

\$15.66

average wage at the start of the program

11%

average wage increase upon program completion

93%

of scholars are retained by their early childhood employer throughout the required work commitment (removing turnover due to the pandemic). Only two recipients quit their jobs due to the pandemic.



EARLY CHILDHOOD COACH CREDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



In partnership with the Colorado Department of Early Childhood (CDEC), the Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance (ECCLA) is offering a scholarship opportunity for early childhood professionals seeking to obtain and maintain Early Childhood Coaching Credentials. Applicants may choose between several CDEC-approved coaching programs and can take advantage of FREE Reflective Supervision needed to maintain Coach Credentials



DEVELOPING EMERGING LEADERS APPRENTICESHIP SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

A MODEL OF T.E.A.C.H. EARLY CHILDHOOD COLORADO® SCHOLARSHIP

The Developing Emerging Leaders Apprenticeship Scholarship, a model of the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Colorado Scholarship Program, is designed for early educators who are passionate about pursuing a leadership role in the early childhood profession and interested in earning a director credential or an associate degree in early childhood education. Apprentices will work one-on-one with a mentor, gaining valuable support to develop the necessary job skills for a leadership role in early childhood.

FAMILY CHILD CARE HOME FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT GRANT

Building and maintaining a FCCH can be challenging, and we've seen many FCCH providers struggle to keep their doors open for the past several years. To address the declining number of licensed slots within family child care homes and to improve quality within home-based learning environments, the

Buell Foundation, along with the Daniels Fund, granted funds to the Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance (ECCLA) to provide facility improvement funding to family child care homes. This opportunity is intended to help family child care homes start up, expand, or maintain consistent operations, increase capacity and reduce the number of family child care homes closing their doors due to financial restrictions. Since the inception of the Family Child Care Home Improvement Grant Initiative in 2020, ECCLA has awarded \$399,000 to 105 family child care homes across 32 counties in Colorado. These funds

have been used for facilities improvements focused on expanding licensed capacity, health, safety, and quality improvement.



Thank you for helping me breathe life into this home that plans to nurture children for many more years. The biggest barrier for me in the operation of my business for the last 30 years has always been trying to bridge the gap between 'what parents can afford to pay' and 'what I need to charge to remain in business.' Unfortunately, what is left for wages after providing quality care for the children (food, activities, and supplies/equipment, utilities), simply does not allow enough cash flow for major building upkeep. Your grant helped me with some much-needed repairs and replacements to this dedicated play area.

-Gloria Bergner, Phillips County



For more information about T.E.A.C.H., Developing Emerging Leaders, or Family Child Care Home Grants, contact Shannon Hall, Director of Direct Services, shannon@ecclacolorado.org | 720.899.3047

For more information about the Early Childhood Coach Credential Scholarship, contact Cameron Fall, Scholarship & Career Coordinator, cameron@ecclacolorado.org | 720.899.3048

About ECCLA

ECCLA advocates for and strengthens the accessibility, quality, and equity of local services and supports through a responsive statewide system of Early Childhood Councils, to benefit Colorado's young children, their families, and early childhood professionals.

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