Scholarships for Child Care Professionals

Just Like You

For more information, visit: www.okhighered.org/scholars

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Advance Your Career to Earn More

Take a step toward success
There are many steps you can take to advance your career as a child care professional. The first step is to begin your education to earn credentials such as the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential and the Certificate of Mastery. Earning these credentials can lead to many career benefits. From there, many options are available for furthering your education to heighten your career.

The Scholars program provides a sequential professional development path for teachers, directors and family child care home providers (or child care professionals) and scholarship support while taking courses leading to a credential in child development.

Benefits of earning a credential
- Increased knowledge
- Increased confidence
- Increased opportunity for better pay, recognition and a sense of accomplishment
- Improved job performance and service to children and families
- Reinforce commitment to child development
- Professional achievement that validates knowledge and skills in child development

Scholarship eligibility
To qualify for the Scholars program, child care providers must:
- Work in a one-star plus or higher Department of Human Services (DHS)-licensed or military-monitored or tribal-monitored child care facility.
- The facility must have a minimum of 10% DHS and/or tribal subsidy enrollment.
- Work as a teacher, family child care provider or director at least 30 hours per week, earning $15.50 or less per hour.
- Be employed at a child care facility at least six months before beginning course work.
- Once approved, be on a child development plan of study.

Support and assistance
Being a scholar is a collaborative process between you and the Scholars program. Working closely with your scholar coordinator can help you set and achieve goals, connect with campus resources and make responsible decisions consistent with your interests, goals, abilities and credential.

The Scholars program promotes scholar success by empowering scholars to take responsibility for achieving their academic and professional goals.

Scholar coordinators:
- Provide support services and technical assistance.
- Help scholars navigate through the entire process, from the application for the scholarship, admissions and financial aid to credential completion.
- Provide academic and career advisement to ensure scholars’ success.
- Provide guidance in exploring scholars’ credential options to ensure compatibility with educational and professional goals.

How to pay for it
With the Scholars program, you can:
- Get free books.
- Pay only 30% of the tuition costs.
- Earn Pell Grants for additional aid, if qualified.