

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Newsletter

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"This scholarship means so much to me. I'm very grateful for this opportunity. It has motivated me to finish the degree I set aside for years simply because I didn't think I'd be able to afford it."

-2020 T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Recipient Survey

Student Spotlight

Zeneya (Coleman) Bunn graduated at the end of the Fall 2020 term with her Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney (UNK). Zeneya was first awarded a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship in the Fall 2015 term for an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education from Southeast Community College (SCC) in Lincoln. She completed 107.5 credits at SCC.

After graduating with her Associate of Arts Degree in Early Childhood Education from SCC at the end of the Winter 2018 term, Zeneya then began work on her bachelor's degree at UNK. She was awarded a new T.E.A.C.H. scholarship in the Spring 2020 term at UNK. She completed 31 credits and graduated while working full time as a teacher in a child care program in Lincoln, NE.

Zeneya says, "My name is Zeneya Bunn and I have been with the T.E.A.C.H. program since 2015! I started T.E.A.C.H. at the first child care center I worked at in 2015 while attending Southeast Community College - Lincoln majoring in Early Childhood Education - Inclusive. Unfortunately, only a few months into the program, the child care center I was at got shut

down. I immediately transferred to another child care center where I was able to get right back on the T.E.A.C.H. program with no issues! T.E.A.C.H. allowed me to pursue the degree I wanted with so much extra help and support. I was able to go through my associate degree without having to worry about tuition, books, and having enough time to do homework or complete my practicums with those four hours of homework time.

After completing my associate degree, I was told by my center that they would not allow me to complete my bachelor's degree though T.E.A.C.H. This devastated me, as I wanted to continue my education, but could not do it without a little extra support from the T.E.A.C.H. program. I did end up applying at the University of Nebraska - Kearney and started to work on my Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education - Inclusive until my contract was up, and I was able to find another sponsoring center that would support my education. I ended up finding a center that would allow me to start back on T.E.A.C.H. and even filled out the paperwork with me the day I was hired! I started working toward my

bachelor's degree and with the help of the T.E.A.C.H. program, I was able to make it through student teaching during the pandemic with the living stipend they offer to those who are student teaching.

I do not think I would have reached these educational goals without the T.E.A.C.H. program and I am always telling others who are in school to look into it because of how much it helped me through college! I am now working towards my Master's Degree in Early Childhood Curriculum and Instruction at Peru State College! I want to give a huge thank you to everyone involved in T.E.A.C.H. for making my goals possible, and a big thank you to Julie Warford for being with me every step of the way! Best of luck to everyone on the T.E.A.C.H. program! Stay safe and stay educated!"



New Series of Policy Briefs Available

The T.E.A.C.H. National Center recently released a series of policy briefs. The briefs provide information and recommendations for policymakers, programs, advocates, and stakeholders in early childhood, higher education, and workforce development to ensure an educated, well-compensated, and stable early childhood workforce is in place and available for all young children. Topics include:

- * Career Pathways: Supporting Early

Childhood Educators

- * Higher Education and the Early Childhood Workforce
- * Retaining Educated Early Childhood Educators
- * Creating Equity for and within the Early Childhood Workforce

You can find these policy briefs at <https://www.childcareservices.org/programs/partner-programs/teach-national-center/policy-briefs/>



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® National Center

The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® National Center at Child Care Services Association (CCSA) is excited to announce they have launched a new website at the current URL, www.teachecnationalcenter.org. Their new website is user-friendly, mobile-friendly,

ADA compliant, and consistent with CCSA's branding. It will allow the National Center to more effectively raise awareness about them and their work.

Check it out!

April 20th—22nd, 2022
Chapel Hill, NC
The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood & Child Care WAGE\$ National Annual Symposium returns face to face!

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: My school account says it is overdue. Do I need to pay that?

A: No. Schools will send us the invoice later on in the term.

Q: Will you end up getting a statement from my school? I got one, so I want to be sure it went to you too, and not just me.

A: Yes, they will send us a separate one. They send you a statement, just for your information.



Suggestions of Self-Care Practices

- ◇ Establish healthy daily habits (Sleep, food, drinks, etc.)
- ◇ Attend professional trainings about topics you need/want
- ◇ Regular relaxation: Recreation, exercise, yoga, meditation, massage, art, music...
- ◇ Explore your spirituality or faith
- ◇ Define personal boundaries: Say “no” and pick your battles
- ◇ Delegate and ask for help
- ◇ Strengthen a network of support: Create an informal support group, reach out for mentors, and/or become a mentor
- ◇ Make it a habit: One self-nurturing activity per day
- ◇ Transition from work to home with rituals
- ◇ Take a mental health day

Source: The Source for Learning—“Early Childhood Teaching: From Easing Stress to Increasing Engagement... Rekindle Your Passion: Self-Care Practices for Early Childhood Educators” webinar



Suggestions for Early Learning Program Administrators

- | | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Awards for Specific Achievements & Activities • Outstanding employee awards • Quality awards • Employee suggestion awards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Formal Awards • Contests • Field trips/special events/travel • Education/personal growth/visibility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Informal Awards • Merchandise/apparel/food • Recognition items/trophies/plaques • Fun/celebrations |
|--|--|---|

Source: The Source for Learning—“Early Childhood Teaching: From Easing Stress to Increasing Engagement... Rekindle Your Passion: Self-Care Practices for Early Childhood Educators” webinar

Your Personal Reminder



**Nebraska Association for
the Education of Young
Children**

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Find and follow us on
Facebook & Instagram!

We're on the web!

www.nebraskaaeyc.org

Important Dates To Remember

October 11th: Office Closed (Columbus/Indigenous Peoples Day)

October 15th: Julie Off

October 22nd-23rd: UNK Conference (Julie will be there!)

November 11th: Office Closed (Veteran's Day)

November 24th-26th: Julie Off (Thanksgiving)

December 23rd-31st: Julie Off (Winter Break)

*Plan Accordingly!

**Please refer to the "Education" section & "Current Recipient and Sponsor Resources" tab of the Nebraska AEYC website for school schedules!



Nebraska Association for the
Education of Young Children

20 Questions

This month's section of "20 Questions" features Shelley from Lancaster County. She is currently a family child care provider in Lincoln. She has been on a Bachelor Degree Scholarship Model since the Spring 2019 term.

1. Where were you born? **Chester, NE**
2. What is something you are proud of? **My family**
3. If you could meet someone famous, past or present, who would it be? **Abraham Lincoln**
4. What is your favorite book? **The Bible**
5. If you could have one super power, what would it be? **To fly**
6. What is one of your biggest pet peeves? **Lying**
7. What's one place you really want to travel to? **China**
8. What is something you are afraid of? **The dark**
9. What are your favorite TV shows? **Big Brother, Survivor**
10. What's your least favorite subject in school? **History**
11. Do you have any pets? **Dog and turtle**
12. Do you have any brothers or sisters? **One sister**
13. What is your favorite season? **Summer**
14. Do you have a favorite holiday? **Christmas**
15. What's your favorite food? **Strawberries**
16. What do you like to do in your free time? **Go shopping**
17. Do you have a hidden talent? **Art**
18. Would you rather live in a place that was always hot, or a place that was always cold? **Hot**
19. What is something you wish you could do? **Sing**
20. What is your favorite color? **Purple**

