



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NEBRASKA

Year 2023 Program Evaluation for Scholarship Recipients

88 of 111 surveys returned (79%)

County: Adams (3), Buffalo (3), Cass (1), Cedar (1), Colfax (1), Dakota (1), Deuel (1), Douglas (31), Hall (1), Hamilton (1), Lancaster (16), Lincoln (2), Madison (2), Nemaha (1), Otoe (2), Perkins (1), Platte (5), Polk (1), Richardson (2), Sarpy (4), Scottsbluff (3), Valley (1), York (2)

College attended:

- Central Community College **(14)**
- Metro Community College **(31)**
- Mid-Plains Community College **(1)**
- Northeast Community College **(4)**
- Southeast Community College **(21)**
- University of Nebraska-Kearney **(21)**
- Western Nebraska Community College **(1)**

Job position:

- Family Child Care Provider- **19 (22%)**
- Lead Teacher, Teacher, Teacher Assistant- **60 (68%)**
- Program Director-Employee- **7 (8%)**
- Program Director-Owner- **2 (2%)**

How long have you been working in early childhood?

- **866.5** years total
- **10.3** years on average

Would you have taken courses if you did not have a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship?

- No- **66 (75%)**
- Yes, I would have taken the same number of courses- **12 (14%)**
- Yes, but I would have taken fewer courses- **8 (9%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **2 (2%)**

Were you working toward a college degree before you learned about T.E.A.C.H.?

- No- **63 (72%)**
- Yes- **25 (28%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **0 (0%)**

If no, why not:

- I could not afford tuition, books, etc.- **52 (59%)**
- I did not have time to take courses- **19 (22%)**
- I did not believe I needed more education- **9 (10%)**
- I had no interest in taking courses- **9 (10%)**
- Courses were at inconvenient times- **7 (8%)**
- I was planning to leave the child care field- **4 (5%)**
- Other- **3 (3%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **24 (27%)**
- **Comments:**
 - New to the U.S. and was getting settled more before deciding.
 - Didn't realize so much was online.
 - Was transferred to child care and wanted to pursue a career.

Completing the number of required course credit hours in one year is:

- About right- **58 (66%)**
- Very easy- **18 (20%)**
- Somewhat difficult- **9 (10%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **3 (3%)**
- **Comments:**
 - Hard to do during the school year. Hope that summer allows more time.
 - Single mother working full time with little support.
 - Single mom, full time employee
 - With work and family, it's a little hard.
 - Haven't started classes yet.
 - Work, life, etc.
 - Had too much in my daily life. I need it to refresh my mind. Had a while not been in school.
 - It's just a lot.
 - Director of a center is hard, short staffed and hard to find people for work.
 - Finding time to study consistently.

The courses I took were:

- About right- **81 (92%)**
- Too difficult- **4 (5%)**
- Too difficult- **1 (1%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **4 (5%)**
- **Comments:**
 - Summer classes are accelerated at UNK. It is harder to complete work on time.
 - I believe there are some barriers for FCCH providers, such as not being able to sign permissions.
 - Haven't started classes yet.
 - Algebra was/is really hard for me- takes extra time I don't have. Math has always been hard for me, though.
 - My instructor was absent this semester. There was a lot of practicum, which affected my work.
 - Many of the assignments pertain to toddlers, not infants.

The amount of release time provided by the scholarship was:

- About right- **52 (59%)**
- Too difficult- **18 (20%)**
- Too much- **0 (0%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **18 (20%)**
- **Comments:**
 - Not able to get 4 hrs. / week (not enough staff)
 - Hard part is finding a sub.

I found having time off during the week when I'm taking classes to be:

- Extremely important- **46 (52%)**
- Nice to have- **25 (28%)**
- Too much- **0 (0%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **18 (20%)**

My share of the tuition/books was:

- About right- **81 (92%)**
- Too much for me to pay- **2 (2%)**
- Too little for me to pay- **0 (0%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **5 (6%)**

The travel funds that I received for transportation to courses were:

- About right- **65 (74%)**
- Too little- **3 (3%)**
- Too much- **0 (0%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **20 (23%)**

The raise/bonus that I receive because of my education is important to me:

- Agree strongly- **57 (65%)**
- Agree somewhat- **1 (1%)**
- Disagree somewhat- **0 (0%)**
- Disagree strongly- **0 (0%)**
- Have not received bonus/raise yet- **24 (27%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **6 (7%)**

I used my bonus money for: (check all that apply)

- Paid bills- **29 (33%)**
- Something for my child care/classroom- **12 (14%)**
- Something for myself or my family- **8 (9%)**
- Saved it- **8 (9%)**
- Paid my portion of the tuition/book- **5 (6%)**
- Other- **1 (1%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **42 (48%)**

I found my sponsoring program to be:

- Very supportive- **43 (49%)**
- Somewhat supportive- **20 (23%)**
- Not supportive- **3 (3%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **23 (26%)**
- **Comments:**
 - Discouraged a little about no raise/bonus.
 - Hard to get time during week w/ no extra staff.
 - Do not receive support from the director currently.
 - Don't really say much to me about it.
 - Hard to get the four hours every week. They make us do it during nap if we are short staffed and that doesn't work when you have 19 and they don't all sleep.

As an overall evaluation of the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® program, how satisfied are you?

- Very satisfied- **74 (84%)**
- Somewhat satisfied- **11 (13%)**
- Somewhat dissatisfied- **1 (1%)**
- Very dissatisfied- **0 (0%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **2 (2%)**

When I needed help, T.E.A.C.H. staff were helpful.

- Agree strongly- **76 (86%)**
- Agree somewhat- **7 (8%)**
- Disagree somewhat- **2 (2%)**
- Disagree strongly- **0 (0%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **3 (3%)**
- **Comments:**
 - I think they forget for us it is a first experience, no clear guidance on transcript/classes/contract options.
 - The sub amount is inadequate. I was told to ask the college for information. I feel T.E.A.C.H. staff should be educated to help with the big process and guide us through, instead of passing us off.
 - Disorganized

Information that I received from T.E.A.C.H. was easy for me to understand:

- Agree strongly- **67 (76%)**
- Agree somewhat- **15 (17%)**
- Disagree somewhat- **3 (3%)**
- Disagree strongly- **0 (0%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **4 (5%)**

What T.E.A.C.H. resources are you aware of, do you use, and are they helpful? (Check all that apply)

- Newsletter- **65 (74%)**
- Website- **60 (68%)**
- Facebook- **27 (31%)**
- Instagram- **9 (10%)**
- Pinterest- **3 (3%)**

- Twitter- **3 (3%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **12 (14%)**

Would you recommend T.E.A.C.H. scholarships to other people working in child care?

- Yes- **86 (98%)**
- No- **0 (0%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **2 (2%)**
- **Comments:**
 - Downfall can be being unsure about changes to job/future w/family. Hard to plan future.
 - But I would feel that I would have to provide beginning assistance to guide them through to not be stressed out.
 - For those without financial aid or obtaining 2nd degree
 - I do explain how big of a commitment it is.
 - Tell them you need extra money set aside to pay your portion.

Do you plan to continue your T.E.A.C.H. scholarship in the upcoming year?

- Yes- **71 (81%)**
- No- **16 (16%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **2 (2%)**

If no, why not?

- I am graduating- **12 (14%)**
- I do not plan to take courses- **1 (1%)**
- I will not stay in my current program- **0 (0%)**
- My center will not sponsor me- **0 (0%)**
- I cannot afford to continue- **0 (0%)**
- Other- **2 (2%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **73 (83%)**
- **Comments:**
 - Start next chapter at UNK, unsure about future w/ kids growing up.
 - I am still going for an associate degree.
 - Does not benefit me.
 - I have zero kids in my program.

How has an increased education helped you? (Check all that apply)

- I have increased my early childhood knowledge and skills- **79 (90%)**
- I have improved relationships with the children and their families- **75 (85%)**
- I have improved the quality of my teaching techniques and practices- **72 (82%)**
- I see myself as an early childhood professional- **65 (74%)**
- I have increased enthusiasm in the classroom- **64 (73%)**
- I am more willing to stay in my current employment- **55 (63%)**
- I have influenced coworkers to use new teaching techniques- **54 (61%)**
- I am more satisfied with my job- **51 (58%)**
- I feel more appreciated and recognized for my work- **40 (45%)**
- Other- **3 (3%)**
- I have not noticed any benefits- **0 (0%)**

- No answer/not applicable- 4 (5%)

I have used what I have learned with the children in my care/classroom.

- Agree- 82 (93%)
- Disagree- 0 (0%)
- Not sure- 2 (2%)
- No answer/not applicable- 4 (5%)

I have shared what I have learned with other teachers at work or in the community.

- Agree- 77 (88%)
- Disagree- 3 (3%)
- Not sure- 4 (5%)
- No answer/not applicable- 4 (5%)

My college offers an adequate number of evening courses.

- Always- 37 (42%)
- Sometimes- 28 (32%)
- Never- 2 (2%)
- No answer/not applicable- 21 (24%)

My college offers an adequate number of weekend courses.

- Always- 31 (35%)
- Sometimes- 21 (24%)
- Never- 13 (15%)
- No answer/not applicable- 23 (26%)

My college offers courses at convenient times for me to attend.

- Always- 57 (65%)
- Sometimes- 21 (24%)
- Never- 1 (1%)
- No answer/not applicable- 8 (9%)

My college offers an adequate number of courses on the internet.

- Always- 77 (88%)
- Sometimes- 7 (8%)
- Never- 0 (0%)
- No answer/not applicable- 4 (5%)

My college offers courses in my preferred language for learning.

- Always- 83 (94%)
- Sometimes- 1 (1%)
- Never- 1 (1%)
- No answer/not applicable- 3 (3%)

The quality of early childhood instructors at my college is good.

- Always- 73 (83%)

- Sometimes- **10 (11%)**
- Never- **1 (1%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **4 (5%)**

Early childhood advisors at my college are available.

- Always- **59 (67%)**
- Sometimes- **24 (27%)**
- Never- **2 (2%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **3 (3%)**

The registration process at my college is easy.

- Always- **62 (70%)**
- Sometimes- **24 (27%)**
- Never- **0 (0%)**
- No answer/not applicable- **2 (2%)**

How can the college/university be more helpful to you?

- They are always helpful.
- They are very helpful.
- My advisor could assist more with course registration.
- I finally found an advisor I like, so now I am good!
- More insight into the competency statements. I still do not really understand what to do. Examples would be very helpful.
- Easier access to advisors; accepting more transfer credits.
- No have any complaints.
- The college/university I attend already does enough to help me.
- Better communication with advisor
- For advisors to be more aware of the T.E.A.C.H. program
- Offer CDA help on the weekends. During the week, I work till 6:30pm. Also, do some @ south Omaha campus.
- Respect for FCCH providers. Credit for experience
- More later in life student resources
- I am very pleased with NECC.
- Allow weekends to complete homework instead of due during week. Weeknights are full, so hard to do it all @ first.
- They are very helpful; they tried their best to help their students.
- To have assignments that are also geared for Family Home Child Cares
- Offering child care at campus for parents-students
- Response time being within 24-48 hours.
- More online advisor help
- The advisors answer emails more often and with more details.
- Offer more evening courses.
- I've had difficulty reaching advisors at both SCC and UNK to ask about classes and degree questions.
- N/A; I thought they were helpful. You just got to communicate.
- I think they're already very helpful.

- The instructors seem to not care this semester.
- More instruction
- College has great communication.
- Suggesting classes that are not required- electives.
- Knowing I can go in and talk to someone even though I'm online.
- The college offers plenty of support and resources for me to utilize when needed.
- Be able to have one specific advisor; sometimes I get confused on who to contact.
- Been great!
- So far, they have been very helpful. I am pleased.
- Having an advisor to connect with. I was told Julie would be best for me, but having some at CCC would be good too.
- Having better communication with new/transfer students
- I cannot think of anything that would be helpful.
- They have been extremely helpful so far.
- I don't know; I haven't started.
- I always have trouble getting in contact with my advisor.
- Understand more about the T.E.A.C.H. program.
- It is more helpful to me because I can continue my education for the career I most enjoy.
- Have more patience with the owner and directors of centers. We have a lot to do.
- More hands-on assistance
- Already helping in every way

What has the scholarship meant to you personally and/or professionally?

- Empowerment
- I feel honored to be able to do this and make good use of the funds.
- Very helpful to not have to pay 100% of my tuition.
- It is a blessing! I have peace of mind not worrying if I can afford school.
- Feels like I am finally accomplishing something and being supported while doing it.
- Advanced my education.
- So much! I am learning a lot about a field I am so happy to be a part of
- It helps a lot, especially when you don't have the resources.
- It helped me fulfill a lifelong dream.
- It has meant everything to me. Without it, I wouldn't be able to take college courses towards my degree due to financial reasons.
- I cannot begin to express my gratitude for the T.E.A.C.H. program. Well, I'll try. I thought I was at a point in my life where my education was as far as it was going to go. I could not afford more student loan payments and was "stuck", more or less, with the position I was in at work. Then, T.E.A.C.H. came in and changed everything. I've been able to gain knowledge in my career, advance in a wonderful place of employment, and not be crippled by fear of more student loans. I kind of fell ass backwards into this opportunity and this program and could not be more in debt with gratitude. Here's to a wonderful program, a forever employment home, and a hope that this program will continue to produce strong educators. Thank you!
- Being able to complete my degree while doing a job I love.
- It gave me the resources and motivation to further my education.
- I wouldn't be able to do it without a scholarship.
- It will and has helped me to become an educator.

- It has meant so much to me because I could have never furthered my education without this program.
- It has been amazing being able to continue my degree to be almost done.
- It has helped me tremendously! Getting more education w/ helping payments
- With the scholarship, I can afford to further my education to keep growing in my job.
- It's provided me the opportunity to finish and complete a goal.
- I will get my associates with 17 months of being awarded a scholarship. I am achieving a lifelong dream.
- If not for T.E.A.C.H., I likely would not have gone back to school or progressed as far in continuing my education.
- It has helped me learn more on how to help children and families. I would not have done it without them!
- I never would have been able to attend without T.E.A.C.H. I can't wait for the future!
- Very thankful. Going to help me provide a better life for my children at home and teach better at school.
- Makes it possible for me to continue my education!
- Helped me get into college and work toward my degree.
- Life is hard and things are getting very hard to pay for and being able to go back to school and receive a scholarship is very helpful and appreciated.
- I never would have dreamed that I would be back at college. This has boosted my confidence - knowledge to share info w/ others. So thankful :)
- It has given me more confidence and I feel very pleased with it. I enjoy doing it. It has accomplished plenty.
- Allowed me to take classes.
- Without T.E.A.C.H., I would never be able to afford college costs.
- The scholarship has allowed me the financial support that I needed to continue my education.
- So helpful, grateful for all the opportunity and support
- Pushed me to prioritize my education. Became a better worker and mother.
- I can finish my degree without getting so much debt I won't be able to pay it off.
- I have always loved being around children and this has allowed me to follow that passion. It has helped me move up in this profession.
- I can focus more on school to work less on financials.
- T.E.A.C.H. has helped me earn a degree in a field that I love.
- I would not/could not take classes if it weren't for the funding and support of T.E.A.C.H. Being a home provider, I don't make that (other paper).
- Helping me to pursue my degree because I can't afford to do it on my own.
- It definitely means a lot to me. I wasn't going to continue school because it was too expensive. I can make a difference in children's lives & to learn more is amazing.
- It's meant being able to work towards my career goals & find value in my work.
- Provided the means for me to further my education.
- The only way I can further my education. I am so grateful.
- I can finally afford college.
- Will email Julie & Tommi!
- My ability to care for children and teach them has greatly improved. I would recommend to any provider.

- Being approved shows that the people in charge really care about helping people complete their goal.
- The scholarship has meant everything to me. It has given me the opportunity to continue my education in the field that I love.
- I was able to achieve my dreams.
- The scholarship has helped me greatly financially. The time off a week allows me to work during the day and have family time in the evening.
- Opened my eyes into finishing my degree, so that I have more options down the road. It has given me the ability to finish strong without stressing in regards to money.
- The scholarship to me personally has meant a great deal. It allows me to continue my education and develop my skills as a child care provider for my parents and kids.
- Increase in pay to support my family and I feel more confident in my role.
- I would have never gone back to school if it weren't for this scholarship. Extremely grateful!
- Helping me pay the cost has helped. Less worry about how to pay for tuition.
- This has given me the ability to further my education while continuing to provide for my family.
- I would not have been able to further my education in early childhood.
- Its allowed me to work on a degree in a field I see myself fully investing in
- It has helped me improve my performance at work.
- It has given me a real second chance at higher education.
- This scholarship is allowing me to start my dream career of becoming a teacher. I love working with children and seeing the ways they learn, develop, and grow. Early child care is a rewarding career.
- Getting another chance of completing my education without worrying about finances.
- I have been able to understand children more and enjoy watching them meet their goals!
- I was able to go back to school to obtain my Bachelor's. I've learned more teaching skills that I can bring into the classroom.
- It has made it possible to go back and finish my degree when I wouldn't have been able to without it.
- Not stressing about how I am going to pay for college.
- Not sure yet, I haven't started.
- It has helped me tons with wanting to continue my education and to want my children to attend college.
- I'm able to save more money for my family.
- It has helped me get a degree while being a full-time mom and working.
- It has made me more excited about continuing my education. It has helped me mentally, financially, and physically.
- Very grateful for the support. It's made me be more aware of my profession as a whole.
- It has changed my life. I don't know if I would ever have gone back.
- Love it because I can't afford college right now.
- It has allowed me to pursue a career I love while working with me throughout personal situations.
- It has increased my knowledge and made me become a better teacher.
- It has allowed me to be able to continue college.
- Gaining knowledge needed, alleviated some financial stress, added creativity to my teaching practices.

How can T.E.A.C.H. be more helpful to you?

- More flexibility when it's time for practicums, i.e. pay for subs.
- They are always quick with answers and helpful.
- Very helpful and always willing to help.
- My experience so far has been great.
- N/A, Julie is great and always answers my calls and emails when I need her! Truly appreciate her!
- Maybe more clarity in benefits offered.
- Wouldn't change anything about it.
- Honestly, I don't have any different, higher expectations for T.E.A.C.H. Just so grateful
- Teach time reimbursement if not given? I understand staff shortage, however it is so helpful and important to my staying on schedule w/ assignments.
- More information about resources
- To have advisor to be more aware and able to answer questions.
- The website had a lot of glitches.
- Nothing at this time. T.E.A.C.H. has been great for me, so far.
- Remember we are balancing this with full-time work. Answering questions, don't say ask UNK / ask SCC. Help us make a plan to finish by balancing the multiple schools.
- Not sure yet, as I am just now getting started.
- Very satisfied - just always worried about my future family changes.
- It helps me to get a head start and know how to teach children in a perspective way. Showing the children their daily lives to have fun!
- Increase sub payments, advocate for college degree for Family Home Child Care. Advocate for our experience to be equivalent to practicums or for observe to come watch us in our programs to count for practicum.
- Don't have any suggestion, since T.E.A.C.H. is always helpful.
- The T.E.A.C.H. program has been very helpful to me, thank you.
- Patience. Overall, very helpful. Couldn't do it without them.
- The more information about things we need to do the better. It can be a little confusing/overwhelming at first.
- Increase time off so I can take more classes face to face.
- Extend to a master's program!
- Nothing; I'm very pleased with how helpful and available they are when I need help or have questions and need answers.
- Doing a wonderful job
- N/A; You were so helpful! Thank you so much!
- Have more incentives during the program.
- T.E.A.C.H. has been wonderful!
- I don't really have anything to add to this.
- I feel supported anytime I have questions and encouraged. I would not change anything in my experience.
- I think it is great the way it is currently.
- Been great! Very good at communication and letting scholars know when grades or paperwork is due and needed.
- Currently, I have no suggestions or corrections.

- Cannot think of anything. So grateful for everyone at T.E.A.C.H. I never thought I would have gotten this far!
- T.E.A.C.H. is extremely helpful. Letting more people know about T.E.A.C.H. and the child care career.
- Don't know at this time.
- I cannot think of anything that would be helpful.
- This is my last semester. Maybe information on next steps, possible master's programs
- More specific information. I do not know about time off and sub release and when/how I use it.
- I am not sure; I haven't started yet.
- My T.E.A.C.H. counselor is already very helpful and available when needed.
- They have done an amazing job, wouldn't change it.
- Continue to take courses.
- Julie is great!
- More time
- Already is helpful.
- Not sure, been very helpful.