

# T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NEBRASKA

## Year 2015 Program Evaluation for Scholarship Recipients

57 of 123 returned – 46%

**County:** Adams (3), Boyd (1), Buffalo (2), Cass (1), Cheyenne (1), Clay (1), Colfax (1), Custer (1), Dodge (1), Douglas (19), Hall (1), Lancaster (7), Nuckolls (1), Otoe (1), Pierce (2), Platte (2), Sarpy (7), Saunders (1), Thurston (1), Wayne (1), Woodbury (1)

**College attended:** CCC (10), MCC (23), MPCC (1), NECC (4), PSU (1), SCC (9), UNK (14), WNCC (1)

**Job Position:** (please select the one which closest matches your position)

Family Child Care Provider	9	16%
Lead Teacher, Teacher, Teacher Assistant	45	80%
Program Director-Employee	1	2%
Program Director-Owner	1	2%
Other	0	0%
No answer	1	

**How long have you been working in early childhood?** (average)

497 years total    9 years average

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

No	42	74%
Yes, I would have taken the same number of courses	6	11%
Yes, but I would have taken fewer courses.	9	16%
No answer	0	

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

Yes	21	37%
No	36	63%
No answer	0	

**If No, why not?** (check all that apply)

I did not have time to take courses	10	20%
I could not afford tuition, books, etc.	27	54%
Courses were at inconvenient times	3	6%
I was planning to leave the child care field	0	0%
I did not believe I needed more education	5	10%
I had no interest in taking courses	1	2%
Other	4	8%
• Had my AA already		
• I wasn't ready for college		
• Wasn't sure I was ready		
• Not a college in town, or close by.		

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

Very easy	14	25%
About right	35	62%
Somewhat difficult	7	13%
No answer	1	

**The courses that I took were:**

Not challenging enough	0	0%
About right	54	100%
Too difficult	0	0%
No answer	3	

**The amount of release time (release time/sub reimbursement) provided by the scholarship was:**

Too little	4	8%
About right	48	92%
Too much	0	0%
No answer/not applicable	5	

**I found having time off (release time/sub reimbursement) during the week when I am taking classes to be:**

Extremely important	36	69%
Nice to have	16	31%
Not very important	0	0%
No answer/not applicable	4	

**My share of the tuition/books was:**

Too little for me to pay	1	2%
About right	53	98%
Too much for me to pay	0	0%
No answer/not applicable	3	

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

Too little	7	16%
About right	38	84%
Too much	0	0%
No answer/not applicable	11	
• Never received any		

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

Agree strongly	31	56%
Agree somewhat	1	2%
Disagree somewhat	3	6%
Disagree strongly	0	0%
Have not received a bonus/raise yet (skip next question)	20	36%
No answer	2	

**I used my bonus money for:**

Something for myself or my family	7	13%
Something for my child care/classroom	9	17%
Paid bills	16	30%
Paid my portion of the tuition/book charges	12	23%
Saved it	4	8%
No answer/not applicable	17	32%
Other	4	8%
▪ Helped pay for sub		
▪ Program expenses		
▪ Haven't received		
▪ I did not get a bonus		

**I found my sponsoring program to be:** (family child care providers skip this question)

Very supportive	32	70%
Somewhat supportive	14	30%
Not supportive	0	0%
No answer/not applicable	11	

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

Very satisfied	50	91%
Somewhat satisfied	5	9%
Somewhat dissatisfied	0	0%
Very dissatisfied	0	0%
No answer/not applicable	2	

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

Agree strongly	47	85%
Agree somewhat	7	13%
Disagree somewhat	1	2%
Disagree strongly	0	0%
No answer	2	

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

Agree strongly	47	84%
Agree somewhat	9	16%
Disagree somewhat	0	0%
Disagree strongly	0	0%
No answer	1	

**How can T.E.A.C.H. be more helpful to you?** (please be specific)

- Time off for online classes (flat 1 hr./week just to give extra time)
- None. Every time I had a question Miss Julie was there to answer her phone or emailed me back.
- Be easier to contact
- Some staff I had contacted at TEACH were rude. It'd be helpful if they were more helpful than rude.
- We communicated through emails/phone. Face to face would have been ideal for myself.
- Keep up the great work ladies!!
- T.E.A.C.H. is very helpful to me already
- You did all you could do. Thank you!
- TEACH is doing such a great job!
- Maybe talking to the person face to face to get a better understanding of TEACH.
- Check in and make sure the directors are being fair.
- I feel they provide very adequate help!
- More school options and quicker options for finishing
- I am very new to the program so I don't know yet.
- I'm not sure at the moment.
- I'm not sure since I just started the program.
- Explain to the sponsoring program that time off is required aspect of the program. My work never gave me time off to complete my classwork, so it was difficult at time to complete the readings, online work and classwork.
- I am scheduled to do my practicum in the fall 2017. I am not sure how that works, when I am to stay at my child care for 1 1/2 years after my contract.
- The program is great! Don't have any suggestions at this time.
- Being flexible with changing jobs or with my current job. I need to be able to find a job that pays more, but I need TEACH to be able to finish my degree. I want to stay working in ECED and in the classroom but I need bigger checks, because I'm expecting a baby August 2016.
- I don't know if it could be more helpful than it already has been.

- Nothing to add, very helpful
- Knowing who I should contact at different colleges when I have questions.
- The program had done more than enough, I can't think of anything more for them to do. I am happy with all they have done for me.
- They are very helpful already

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

Yes	54	96%
No	2	4%
No answer/undecided	1	

**If no, why not?** (check all that apply)

I am graduating	2	50%
I do not plan to take courses	1	25%
I will not stay in my current center	0	0%
My center will not sponsor me	0	0%
I cannot afford to continue	0	0%
Other	1	25%
• Need a break		

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

I am more satisfied with my job	33	58%
I feel more appreciated and recognized for my work	19	33%
I am more willing to stay in my current employment	23	40%
I have increased my knowledge of child development	45	79%
I have improved my teaching techniques	35	61%
I am more confident in my teaching abilities	42	74%
I have better relationships with the children and families with whom I work	29	51%
I see myself as an early childhood professional	41	72%
I appreciate the education I am getting and want to get more	42	74%
I have not noticed any benefits	0	0%
Other	2	4%
• Connected with others in early childhood field.		
• Gave me more purpose in life.		
No answer	3	

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

Agree	52	96%
Disagree	0	0%
Not sure	2	4%
No answer/not applicable	3	

**If agree, please give an example:**

- Strategies and lessons I have been taught I use and practice when in the classroom.
- I think that I am always learning new ways to interact and learning new activities that I can do with the kids that will stimulate their development.
- I have implemented techniques for my classroom that help with behaviors and other special needs. I have, also, changed my lesson planning to better suite my needs and the students.
- I don't work in infants, but when I help out I know more of what to look for and how to interact with them on a more DAP approach.
- More effective transitions!
- Was taught the tapping game to help children to share and we use this in our class now.
- I use new teaching techniques in the classroom that I have learned from the classes I have taken.
- Have used guidance information and DAP materials.
- More word recognition, more math and science.

- I am going more on the child's lead and teach what they want to learn.
- Setting up the environment to be more inclusive.
- As a child is handing out napkins for a snack, I ask how many do we need and she figures it out and counts them out as she is passing them around.
- I have used new teaching techniques and problem solving skills.
- I am doing general education at this time.
- I provide my class quality, enriching experiences.
- Understand more the early childhood concepts.
- Problem solving
- I am making the classroom more for the children. Having more toys available...etc.
- It made my course easier to understand.
- I have taken my education into the classroom and see what I need.
- I try to encourage more social and emotional opportunity for staff and children.
- For the ECED class I took I learned about different types of observation and used them.
- Documentation
- Better understanding of child development and building relationships with parents and families.
- On their development and understanding it all.
- Included info in parent newsletters; incorporated new story reading techniques.
- Better ways of improvement, keeping a safe, clean and fun environment.
- I am much more focused on the creative process now.
- I have used many different activities in my classroom that I learned about during my courses.
- I have implemented or looked at things a different way to see if it would work.
- Playing with children during center time and many interactions.
- Things and activities that I have learned brought into the classroom.
- Improved my interactions with families and co-workers too.
- I have better teaching strategies more appropriate for the ages.
- Different activities that I discover in my classes.
- Too many!
- Gaining meaningful knowledge helps me provide better teaching to my students.
- Lesson plans, observation, communicating with parents.
- I provide my families with a much better program. More learning takes place in a day's time.
- When a parent has a question about development of their child I can explain to them about milestones and developmental stages of children.
- Mostly gen eds last semester.

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

Agree	46	85%
Disagree	1	2%
Not sure	7	13%
No answer/not applicable	2	

**If agree, please give an example:**

- When a course I have taken is over or even during the course I share with the teachers about my class experience.
- I am always telling other teachers about the TEACH program and how wonderful it is. I also take a lot of information that I learn in my classes and use it in my classroom at work.
- I have shared different tips, lesson plan ideas, and some other little bits of knowledge to some of my coworkers and friends. One of them being how to help a child they have a lot of very severe behaviors. I helped them implement a plan to help him.
- During teacher meetings we have shared how to handle/approach different scenarios. Now I have my college books to also help find specific things and share them as well.
- I'm constantly sharing with everyone!
- I have tried to help other teachers to set up their room.

- The importance of teaching math and science at a young age.
- I have talked to other teachers about the TEACH program.
- I talk regularly with one of my grandparents who is also a special education teacher about activities that the children are doing.
- I give advice to other teachers as to what I would do in a situation
- Building rapport with families
- Explaining how to apply learned helpful techniques with children.
- Just in visiting
- I want about what I learning with the other teachers.
- I asked the teacher associates about things and learned from them too.
- The scholarship has meant that my education is important to me and family. Without this scholarship I would not be able to work.
- I remind peers that children need to learn what social engagement is before we teach ABC's.
- I tell the teachers I work with :)
- Shared different observation types with other teachers and teacher aides.
- I always refer back to my classes and what I have learned.
- Development
- I've shared info with my mom whom I work with.
- Ways to rearrange the rooms and activities our children can do.
- We have talked about strengthening our work support group.
- I talk with my director a lot about different ideas I see at my current practicum site.
- No timeout treat all kids the same.
- Always implement what learned in class.
- I share information with other childcare providers, strongly recommending that they look in to taking some classes or getting their degree.
- Activities I have learned
- Again, too many
- I give other teaching staff ideas and information that I have learned.
- I have parent teachers which we share ideas back and forth.

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

Yes	57	100%
No	0	0%
No answer	0	

**What has the scholarship meant to you personally and/or professionally?** (attach additional paper if needed)

- It gave me the opportunity to get a degree without costing money out of my own pocket.
- It has allowed me to complete classes towards my BA Teaching and will graduate in Dec of 2016 with a BA in Teaching Pre-K through 3rd grade.
- Like I said before, the scholarship opened up a whole new life purpose. Before obtaining my degree was indifferent and now my dream is to walk down that isle and get my Bachelor's Degree. In my family so far I am the only one with an Associate's Degree and the only one so far who is working on a Bachelor. This makes my family and I proud. It makes me feel like I am something meaningful in my life and its benefiting me as well as the kids I work with. I am so thankful that I was granted the opportunity to be helped by the scholarship.
- It has provided me with a chance to return back to college.
- The scholarship has been a big part of my life for many years. It means that I can continue my education and get closer to my goal of having a job with a school district that has full benefits.
- Since the age of 5 my dream has always been to be a teacher. I started that journey when I graduated high school and gave it up to get married. Now I am a single mom who is showing my own children how to set goals and achieve them. That dreams can come true if you work hard. I wouldn't be able to do that without this scholarship. I know that I am going to achieve my dream someday because of this scholarship. I, also, know that degree it is going to help me grow in my

early childhood career even more. There will be so many more jobs options and doors open. Not only will it open those doors but it will forever make me a better teacher.

- Personally - I love to learn and have that satisfaction of still growing in knowledge. Professionally - I have grown to be a better teacher and could have not done it without further education.
- More than I can say. I feel like a better example to my daughter, I don't feel stressed out when I think of finishing school. I feel like a better, more capable teacher. I feel more confident in just about every aspect of my life.
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- It has allowed me to focus on my study. The time off to study help me have a set time to study and allow myself to get the best education.
- It means a lot to me, it helps my life personal and professionally. I am able to work with children better. I am a better teacher and will be a better parent because of TEACH. I can't wait to further my education and get my degree.
- I do not start classes until January but already feel so blessed to be awarded the TEACH scholarship.
- To be able to attend college at my age (50+) is something I never thought I could do. TEACH is helping me with that dream!
- I am excited about my future and don't stuck in childcare.
- I have felt more comfortable with my teaching. I have felt more confident in accomplishing my education goal.
- This scholarship has allowed me to take time off work in order to complete school work. The scholarship has also allowed me to go to school without having to affect my household negatively financially.
- Through this scholarship I have the importance of Early Childhood Education. I have learned how important it is for children to develop cognitive, emotional, social and physical skills. It has also helped me realize the importance of my job.
- I previously attended a different college for several years, but I am a military spouse, so when I moved, the majority of my credits did not transfer. Therefore, I thought I was going to have to take an additional four years of classes and figure out a way to pay for it. The TEACH program has helped ease the cost of this so much, making it easier for me to complete my degree. The classes that I have taken through the program have increased my knowledge on child development tremendously, improving my teaching and helping me become more confident in my teaching abilities.
- I have been able to afford to complete my degree which I started when I was 18. I am able to complete my life goal of having an education which will benefit my family financially. It has helped me widen my scope of opportunities for the future.
- I am very grateful for this opportunity. I've had a hard time paying for my associate degree student loans. The only negative thing I have to say is, the contract to the employer is too long. There are so many changes, staff turnover, and bullying (drama) going on in a job. It's hard for me to want to stay in such a negative environment. I know I need to take care of myself and well-being but being in a contract and having to pay more than what I'm already paying is overwhelming.
- Gives me a chance to further my education while reducing my student loan debt.
- Helped me get an education
- It means I am able to take classes without a huge worry of the cost. It allows me to concentrate on homework instead of money. I will be able to graduate sooner than if I didn't have the scholarship.
- I am new to the program.
- Honestly, everything. I am so happy to be going back to school. The impact this will have on my life and career is priceless I can't be happier for this scholarship.
- This scholarship has been a great financial outlet to increasing my knowledge for children's development and growth.

- If it wasn't for TEACH, I would not be working on my BA.
- This scholarship has opened many doors for me. If it wasn't for this opportunity I wouldn't be able to continue my education. It has also helped me grow within my work, while gaining more knowledge.
- It has helped me gain confidence and given me the opportunity to better myself.
- It has allowed me to further my education and take care of my family. I hope to have the opportunity to get a teaching job in the public school system.
- Personally it helps me a lot especially I am not financially stable and just having the opportunity to still do classes while working is a blessing. I love my boss, she helps me through everything and I am grateful for her and the TEACH scholarship. I just want to further my career one step at a time and you guys gave me a chance to. Thank you so much!
- To me the TEACH scholarship is a ladder to better pay, increased self-confidence, promotions and the opportunity to finish school when otherwise I would not be able to afford it. Receiving this scholarship is a miracle to me and a challenge to fulfill my potential. I will be ever grateful to TEACH for supporting my education and my career.
- I feel that this scholarship had helped me to really focus on work and school and not to stress too much about the financial burden. Without this scholarship, I would not be able to take the amount of courses I am taking in the time I am taking them. If I had to take the courses at a slower pace, I think I would just get discouraged and feel like I wasn't doing enough to further my education. I am very happy with all that I have learned so far through my program and I can't wait to learn more as time goes on.
- It has meant I can further my education in what my passion is. Due to the low pay, in early childhood, I couldn't afford to go to college without the TEACH scholarship.
- It has been a huge blessing to be able to take classes and further my education. Also, getting 4 hours a week to study does not take away a lot of my family time.
- An opportunity to educate myself and become a better teacher.
- Taught me that I can do it. It has pushed me to do my very best.
- A big help in paying for my classes and travel time.
- It has really helped. I was in nursing and have been since I graduated high school in 2009. I have quit/failed 2 programs and was at a loss in what to do. This scholarship has been so helpful because I may not have gone back to school knowing what I'd want to do without it. It is such a relief having guidance and support in my new path. I have always wanted to work with babies/young children but didn't know how except nursing.
- I never would have been able to go back to school if not for TEACH. I love my job as a childcare provider, but personally and professionally I have grown and feel very accomplished.
- The program has helped me continue my education, when I thought I wasn't going to be able to. So to me T.E.A.C.H. helped me in a big way!
- This scholarship means the world to me. It has made me a better teacher and been there for me when no one else was. It has opened doors for my future for more job possibilities and I cannot thank you enough!
- It was a major motivation factor for myself. Once I had financial support I was eager to begin and continue my education.
- It helps providing hours for me to take off work and still get paid.
- It pushes me to want more. VERY GOOD PROGRAM
- It has meant a lot, especially the support you are given as you continue your education. It is making reaching my goals possible.
- College is expensive. T.E.A.C.H. helped me afford it.
- It has meant for me to finish and receive my associate in Early Childhood and to better myself and my family.
- It has given me an education that I never felt possible, plus so much more, I can't even begin to tell it all.
- I can get the education I need to help the children I work with. I wouldn't be able to afford it without the scholarship.

**My college offers an adequate number of evening courses.**

Always	20	41%
Sometimes	24	49%
Never	5	10%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	7	

**My college offers an adequate number of weekend courses.**

Always	18	36%
Sometimes	15	30%
Never	17	34%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	7	

**My college offers courses at a convenient time for me to attend.**

Always	24	44%
Sometimes	28	51%
Never	3	5%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	2	

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

Always	37	66%
Sometimes	19	34%
Never	0	0%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	1	

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

Always	38	73%
Sometimes	14	27%
Never	0	0%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	4	

**Early childhood advisors at my college are available.**

Always	38	72%
Sometimes	15	28%
Never	0	0%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	4	

**The registration process at my college is easy.**

Always	38	68%
Sometimes	18	32%
Never	0	0%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	1	

**How can the college/university be more helpful to you? (please be specific)**

- They are helpful with all questions
- By offering more classes in the summer and winter
- Update blackboard classes to current book, update syllabus to reflect what blackboard uses as assignments. Infant & Toddler development was one example.
- Offer more classes during winter quarter.
- Someone to help me take the right courses in order of important.
- Let me know when to register. Time gets away from me and I'm not in the building with signs and announcements from staff.
- Suzy Curry has been very helpful and got me in the academic transfer program.
- At this time, I have no suggestions.
- Communicate better about Financial Aid

- Having the online classes has been very helpful. I am not sure how I will do the practicum with having an in-home child care.
- Sometimes they take a while to get back to you.
- Some classes aren't offered on campus. Some students like me benefit being able to go to the campus to learn.
- Understanding of the CDA and be more informed. I have been confused and so are they.
- Returning calls within a 48 hr. time frame.
- No recommendations! I have very much appreciated all the help from SCC! Very accommodating staff.
- The advisors were unsure how to handle my education since I already have a Bachelor's degree.
- More varied office hours. It's hard to take work off to make an advising appointment.
- They could take into consideration that there are people in the program who work full-time and need notice when meetings or other required things are scheduled.
- To be able to lead me on which courses to take every semester.
- The college is already helpful.
- They did very well. Thank you.
- Need more online, only have a couple. Would be nice if there was more like at SCC.
- Less paperwork when dealing with financial aid.
- The contact I have had, they have always been helpful.
- It can be more helpful when learning new technology.
- None.
- They were helpful when I needed them.

**Is there anything else that you wish to share with us that have not been covered in this survey?**

- Nothing at this time.
- No
- Love the program!
- Thank you!
- I realize that it is important to stay in the child care field, and by signing the contract I am obligated for 1 1/2 years after I complete a contract. I intend to keep working in the Early Childhood field; I wish I could move into working in a preschool after graduation, but according to my contract, I am obligated to stay at home with my child care.
- Because I am just getting started with the TEACH program and college classes some of these questions do not apply to me at this time.
- I have really been able to try to boost my families' quality of life thanks to TEACH.
- Not that I can think of.
- No, thank you for accepting me.
- I feel having foreign college is extremely difficult to get credit I have here in the USA. I feel like there is not enough help for foreign students and we could use more of an advocate I wish there was a better list of schools that accept foreign credits.
- Not at this moment. Thank you so much for making all of this schooling possible for me! I am so very grateful.
- Next year I'll be able to fill this survey out more effectively. I have only been in school for two weeks, but I love everything TEACH has done so far!
- Thank you for the opportunity to learn about things that I love!
- I would like to thank you for all you do. Thank you.
- I'm curious how billing works, and the portion I'm reliable for. Also, I was told to enroll for financial aid and I did but still am unsure how it will all work.
- A BIG THANK YOU to the T.E.A.C.H. program!