

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NEBRASKA

Year 2016 Program Evaluation for Scholarship Recipients

86 of 125 returned – 69%

County: Adams (2), Buffalo (4), Cheyenne (1), Clay (1), Colfax (1), Custer (1), Dawson(4), Dodge (1), Douglas (24), Hastings (1), Lancaster (8), Lincoln (1), Madison (4), Nemaha (1), Nuckolls (1), Otoe (1), Pierce (1), Platte (4), Saline (1), Sarpy (9), Saunders (1), Seward (1), Thurston (1), Wayne (1), Woodbury (2)

College attended: CCC (13), MCC (27), MPCC (2), NECC (4), PSU (1), SCC (17), UNK (20), WNCC (2), SCS (2)

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

Family Child Care Provider	17	19%
Lead Teacher, Teacher, Teacher Assistant	58	67%
Program Director-Employee	8	9%
Program Director-Owner	1	1%
Other	0	0%
No answer		

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

687 years total 7 years 10 months average

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

No	59	70%
Yes, I would have taken the same number of courses	12	14%
Yes, but I would have taken fewer courses.	14	16%
No answer	1	

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

Yes	24	29%
No	58	71%
No answer	4	

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

I did not have time to take courses	8	11%
I could not afford tuition, books, etc.	50	76%
Courses were at inconvenient times	3	4%
I was planning to leave the child care field	0	0%
I did not believe I needed more education	3	4%
I had no interest in taking courses	1	1%
Other	3	4%
• 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	20	24%
About right	55	67%
Somewhat difficult	8	9%
No answer	3	

The courses that I took were:

Not challenging enough	0	0%
About right	81	96%
Too difficult	3	3%
No answer	2	

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

Too little	7	9%
About right	70	91%
Too much	0	0%
No answer/not applicable	9	

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

Extremely important	53	68%
Nice to have	25	32%
Not very important	0	0%
No answer/not applicable	8	

My share of the tuition/books was:

Too little for me to pay	0	0%
About right	80	100%
Too much for me to pay	0	0%
No answer/not applicable	6	

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

Too little	4	5%
About right	65	93%
Too much	1	2%
No answer/not applicable	16	

- Never received any/online classes

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

Agree strongly	52	63%
Agree somewhat	0	0%
Disagree somewhat	6	7%
Disagree strongly	0	0%
Have not received a bonus/raise yet (skip next question)	25	30%
No answer	3	

I used my bonus money for:

Something for myself or my family	10	14%
Something for my child care/classroom	15	21%
Paid bills	27	38%
Paid my portion of the tuition/book charges	11	15%
Saved it	8	11%
No answer/not applicable	12	
Other	3	

- 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	57	84%
Somewhat supportive	11	16%
Not supportive	0	0%
No answer/not applicable	18	

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

Very satisfied	82	96%
Somewhat satisfied	2	3%
Somewhat dissatisfied	0	0%
Very dissatisfied	1	1%
No answer/not applicable	1	

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

Agree strongly	76	92%
Agree somewhat	0	0%
Disagree somewhat	7	8%
Disagree strongly	0	0%
No answer	3	

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

Agree strongly	73	88%
Agree somewhat	0	0%
Disagree somewhat	9	10%
Disagree strongly	1	2%
No answer	3	

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

- Julie is amazing. I couldn't ask for more, very helpful.
- Inform students when there is something that you do not pay for so the student knows that they are responsible for it
- It can help me further my education. It can also help me with goals & dream.
- I have to use Student Loan Money to pay my helper. I have to do 45 hrs. at my practicum and pay my helper \$10.00 an hour.
- I have to use Student Loan Money to pay my helper. I have to do 45 hrs. at my practicum and pay my helper \$10.00 an hour.
- Registering for classes was difficult- w/o an advisor I wouldn't have been successful.
- By keeping me on schedule for upcoming information like Fafsa updates, enrolling in classes and helping me through difficult classes. That is a big help because sometimes I forget about enrolling in classes due to me working, finishing classes and other things that I have going on.
- You guys are doing awesome. Thank you so much. Especially Julie Warford.
- You do a wonderful job.
- It would be beneficial if a daycare provider could meet the requirement of 18 months by staying in the early childhood profession by being able to teach in a preschool.
- Open up more choices so we don't have to student teaching and time off work.
- I need help with time management.
- I wish I could stay in the program and still be allowed to take a teaching job in the school system after graduation.
- Julie is very helpful with me even when I'm very forgetful. Also with all my stressful events. She understands and is very helpful.
- TEACH is very helpful I can't think of anything more helpful because you all already do so much.
- Have a personal education mapped out so I know what my plans are.
- Be easier to apply for & not take so long to be accepted.

- When new quarter starts and when registration starts at college.

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

Yes	73	89%
No	10	11%
No answer/undecided	3	

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

I am graduating	6	60%
I do not plan to take courses	2	20%
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	2	20%

- Need a break

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

I am more satisfied with my job	52	63%
I feel more appreciated and recognized for my work	38	46%
I am more willing to stay in my current employment	39	47%
I have increased my knowledge of child development	71	86%
I have improved my teaching techniques	68	82%
I am more confident in my teaching abilities	63	76%
I have better relationships with the children and families with whom I work	47	57%
I see myself as an early childhood professional	58	70%
I appreciate the education I am getting and want to get more	63	76%
I have not noticed any benefits	0	0%
Other	0	0%
No answer	3	

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

Agree	76	94%
Disagree	2	2%
Not sure	4	4%
No answer/not applicable	4	

If agree, please give an example:

- Lesson plans
- I am always bringing in new ideas and new assignment strategies.
- I learned a lot about different observation techniques.
- By teaching what the lesson plans are done for the curriculum
- I understand the children's development better and understand which crafts would work well for them. They love to paint a lot.
- I have rearranged my classroom and teaching styles to accommodate and improve the children's learning.
- My lesson plans have carried over into my classroom
- I've used different techniques & activities. Especially the ones that are hands on.
- Observing the children playing and using techniques to develop such as social emotional skills, physical and cognitive skills as well.
- Saving things for parent teacher conferences on their progress.
- With what I have learned I have more knowledge of how children behave and am more aware of what works best for each child.
- I can read books to children making face, voices and acting out. I learned a lot in every class. I love literacy and children enjoy reading books!
- Understand positive behavior effect on the classroom

- I learned new ideas from creative arts class to do in my classroom. I am also learning leadership skills and how to be an effective teacher in Family and Community Relations.
- Lesson planning and more understanding about young children.
- I have been able to make effective lesson plans. And have more child oriented learning.
- I learned different strategies and ways to understand children and how to help them be successful.
- The teaching techniques and ways children learn. I have shared what I am learning with my team.
- I use my knowledge of child development to make individualized lesson plans for the infants in my classroom.
- With my daycare children, helps with planned actives.
- When a child has any type of behavior I can help them w/ appropriate resolution.
- Lesson plans, partnering w/ schools
- Used new observation techniques from my ECE courses
- I have changed how we do many things throughout the day.
- I am able to help with lesson plans & plan appropriate activities.
- I've been learning about assessments in class and have tried them in my own classroom.
- Guidance has changed & approved child portfolio being used now.
- Learning different ways to communicate with the children and the families.
- I have used the ideas from my classes in my preschool classroom.
- I used an art activity I learned in practicum in my class.
- I have paid more attention to what the children need.
- I have gotten good strategies to use in my classroom and to help children that needed the extra help.
- I have learned different activities and have shared them with the children and they love them.
- New activities, more patience
- I am taking a class that has talked about positivity in the classroom. I think about the things I have learned in that class and the impact my attitude has on the classroom as a whole
- Child activities
- By reading books to them a different way than before.
- Class lessons.
- We have begun setting up our new classroom and it has helped to be sure it is appropriate and according to what it should be.
- One of the classes I took was on creative arts and I have used it in my lesson plans.
- The lesson plans are used in the classroom.
- Trying out new teaching methods or strategies and activities I have learned.
- More child centered activities.
- My lesson plans are more detailed and aligned with the NE Early childhood guidelines.
- In my lesson plans.
- I have used suggestions on special kids for activities.
- Understanding their development.
- Classroom lessons.

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

Agree	69	85%
Disagree	5	5%
Not sure	9	10%
No answer/not applicable	3	

If agree, please give an example:

- The benefits of using TEACH and how helpful the people are.
- Anytime someone asks about me being in school I credit the TECH and my sponsoring employment.
- I bring materials in for other teachers to use in their classes.
- I'm always informing people about the amazing child development process.
- Tried new things I learned or other classes talked about.

- My friends that are daycare providers and I talk about things and we all understand what we are talking about. I feel better talking to the children's parents also about some things.
- I take some of the school work or print outs my teachers provide me to work so others can read them and learn more about children especially for the ages they work with or for new workers who are unfamiliar with child care and what to do. I also use the information I learn from school to better my classroom and help parents when they have questions.
- How to correct behavior problems in certain children.
- Coming up with ideas for children who have different abilities.
- I share how I plan my curriculum and keep track of progress.
- I share many different things with my families I work with from info on tantrums to timeout.
- I have helped parents with questions about their children.
- I share information with my team in my classroom.
- Any helpful knowledge that I found useful.
- I have helped a teacher with information about child development.
- Through modeling, lesson planning and ideas on how to handle children's behavior.
- We used some stuff I learned in class with behavior plans.
- I share information about child development with my assistant teacher.
- A friend considering going back to school and had no idea about TEACH.
- If the need help with course work I offer my help.
- Rooted in relationship training.
- I have convinced 3 coworkers to apply for TEACH.
- Explaining to assistants why we need to change things.
- I share ideas learn with lead teachers & implement them into our lessons.
- My coworker and peers at night class often ask about what I've learned or ask for advice.
- As president of our childcare association I have talked about TEACH benefits w/ members.
- Just talking about things.
- Share portfolio info with other providers.
- Coming up with creative learning games and art work for the classroom.
- I feel more knowledgeable about Early Childhood Education and the things that go with it.
- Communication with lead teachers has improved.
- I have used a lot of the lesson strategies learned throughout my classes and I have brought them back to my teaching team.
- I have shared with some teachers that if you keep the children busy they are less likely to get in trouble.
- Swapped ideas & activities
- I have told other providers in my area to apply.
- We have used what I learned to setup our classroom and implement new policies.
- Teachers come to me and ask for help knowing that I am educating myself in this area.
- I like to share what I am learning and what is helping me stay focus.
- Other daycare providers and share ideas.
- My coworkers and I both took the same class however hers online & so weekly we would discuss about topics and units.
- Informed them of the opportunity.
- I am currently on an Early Child Coalition Board.
- Talked with my coworker about parent relationships.
- Explained mile stone to parents & teachers.

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

Yes	83	100%
No	0	0%
No answer	3	

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

- It has given me the change to move up in the field as I will continue to do once I receive my degree.
- Helps me to obtain my B.A. to keep my current position. Helps me afford to go back to school.
- I'm just getting started but having this scholarship has been a blessing can't wait for more classes.
- I have been given the tools to help students thrive & grow in a safe environment.
- It has allowed me to continue my education at a rate that is very affordable! I am showing my daughters how important it is to have an education.
- It has given me an opportunity to further my education. Something as a single mother wouldn't be possible without this program. I also love setting this example for my daughter.
- If it were not for this scholarship I wouldn't have been able to get my degree and I wouldn't be where I am in my professional career.
- Personally: It is something awesome that I can continue my education.
Professionally: helps me get more education to be in the school/daycare system.
- This scholarship has helped me to move on and try to work more on my education. I like how my work helps and works with me to make sure I get time to study and also help me with observing some students in my classroom or other classrooms.
- If it wasn't for the scholarship I most likely wouldn't have gone back to school. I wouldn't be able to pay my substitute as well as I do while I am at my Practicum. I enjoy the knowledge I am getting to help with my daycare, my own children and myself. Succeed.
- This scholarship has given me the chance to attend school at a reasonable price and further assist me in my ongoing education while supporting my career choice. I'm very thankful to have received this scholarship and I would like to thank everyone involved with the TEACH program for making schooling affordable and easier for college students. When coworkers talk about going to school for early childhood education I always recommend looking into this program.
- Helped me to further my education & career.
- This has given me a better opportunity to get a better paying job. In the long run will give me & my two children more opportunities in life. I am very thankful to have been accepted into the teach program.
- It has meant a great deal, I am able to learn more and be able to bring it into my classroom to better teach my children. I am more aware of various situations that my children go through their emotions. It is nice to see the things that I am teaching my children have an effect on them and hearing what positive things their families has to say about them learning and growing is the best thing ever to me as a teacher.
- It has definitely helped me become better in my field. I understand how to deal with families and diversity.
- I would not have gone back to school without this scholarship. It has changed my life on who I feel I am and what I feel I can accomplish in life. It has been a blessing and I can't believe I am almost done. I have learned so much and have helped so many people go back to school in the process, who have all graduated before me, with two year degrees but still. I keep hanging in there and can't wait to say I did it and I am finished.
- Being able to continue my education is very important to me with the raise it costs for school it helps a lot.
- It means everything. I could not afford classes. I didn't know I could keep studying and working at the same time. Scholarship gave me a great opportunity and I feel very blessed to be getting all the help I am getting.
- Becoming a better prepared teacher.
- By having the TEACH scholarship I have increased my knowledge of child development and I see myself as an early childhood professional I appreciate the opportunity of taking classes through the TEACH scholarship. By taking early childhood classes I plan to someday teach in the classroom.
- Personally this scholarship has helped me in many ways. This scholarship has motivated me and made me feel more secure. I now have the maturity to be in school, and take it serious. With this scholarship I feel financially secure; my money will go to me and my family for our needs. I take it

very seriously because of the struggle I had with my Associates. I now know the true value of education.

- A great opportunity to learn more in ECED to make/earn a better wage w/o raise every year/contract.
- Helped me to become a college graduate. To show my children that college is important.
- This scholarship means a lot to me for me it has given me the opportunity to go back to school to help finish my degree. And with the support of my employer and the college. Not to mention the TEACH staff. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for this opportunity.
- It has helped me out because I get to keep my job. My job needed me to go back to college and without the scholarship I couldn't afford to go back. I love how my job supports me with the college and scholarship.
- I appreciate the opportunity to continue my education through TEACH. It has made me a better teacher who understands more clearly now a child develops.
- I feel so much stronger as an early childhood educator and I feel that I am able to share those benefits with the children and other adults that I work with. I wouldn't be able to pay for the program on my own, and when I get discouraged, I feel that TEACH helps to give me a reason to continue my education.
- This program has been a great opportunity to continue my education and really help me grow as a person and set a great example for my children as well as offer future opportunities through a continued education. It truly has changed my life and the opportunities that will be available to me in the future.
- I am beyond grateful as I never could have afforded to finish up my degree.
- It means I actually have a chance to finish college and earn my degree.
- I wouldn't be graduating this next semester without it.
- I am thankful that scholarships like TEACH exist. The teaching profession is well known to require much schooling but offer inadequate pay. This scholarship helps make it possible to continue education on a teacher's salary.
- The scholarship has been a great support for my education. I have also become more professional with the education I have received.
- I greatly appreciate the TEACH program if it wasn't for the TEACH program I wouldn't be able to continue my education.
- The scholarship has been very helpful to me without it I believe it wouldn't be possible for me to continue my education.
- It has been such a blessing.
- The TEACH program helped me to pursue a dream of mine to become a licensed teacher. I love doing child care while my children are home but I love teaching children. While spending time in classrooms I have found kindergarten or first grade is where I want to be.
- It means a lot to me knowing I have the support I need.
- Without this scholarship I don't know when I would have gone back into school.
- It makes me feel like more of a professional educator. I have been given a great opportunity to earn my teaching certificate without great cost.
- I wouldn't be able to afford to go back to school without the scholarship. I am blessed with this benefit.
- The scholarship has made it easier to get a degree without the stress of worrying about paying for college.
- It has been a great opportunity for me to continue my education because it makes my kids and family proud that I'm pursuing my dreams and improving myself.
- This scholarship has given me the opportunity to show my true abilities. I never thought that I would be getting a degree after an attempt before and got discouraged.
- The scholarship has allowed me to continue my education set higher goals for myself and my childcare program and given me more confidence in myself and my teaching abilities.
- The scholarship is very important to me because I would have paid for most of my degree out of pocket. It has taken a huge weight off my shoulders. I am excited to go to school and finish my degree.

- The scholarship meant to me a better opportunity to become a better teacher.
- The scholarship has lifted a huge financial burden off my shoulders. I am able to focus on my classes better without feeling stressed about how I will pay for the courses.
- I love what I do and know it is important. Without the financial help and 4 hours of weekly work time I know I would not be able to achieve this goal.
- I am hoping to have my associates by September of 2017.
- Feels great to accomplish degree and meet my goal.
- It has meant so much to me. I am able to further my education and by doing so I feel like I am a better teacher and have new ideas.
- Big impact I can do my job better and can better my job.
- It makes me feel really good about myself to have completed those degrees. I feel more confident in my profession.
- It has given me confidence in my position. Likewise it's helped me show my children that it's not too late to follow your dreams and hard work gets you far.
- A lifetime of experience, skills, tools, & an extra endorsement on my teaching certificate to open career possibilities.
- Priceless, my education will always stay with me.
- This scholarship meant that I was and am able to get the degree I've always wanted while not struggling to pay my bills while trying to reach my dreams.
- The scholarship means so much to me because it is allowing me to go to school.
- I feel honored to have such an opportunity to continue school. Not many do get this same opportunity and might as well use it the best of your ability.
- Helping me graduate and receive my associate's degree in early childhood Education.
- Given me an education I never thought was possible.
- It means that I can get my education and not become thousands of dollars in debt but still have a good education to live a great life.
- It has meant I can do the job I have always wanted without the financial stress of getting another degree.
- It has eliminated the financial stress of having to pay for school or making ends meet so I could go back to school. Having a scholarship makes me work harder in school.
- Without the scholarship it was very difficult to pay for college.
- It has boosted my self-esteem my kids feel very proud of me.
- Its means I can continue my education without worrying about how I will afford the cost and time. It is hard but it makes it manageable when TEACH allows you to do a couple classes at a time.
- It has meant a lot. If I didn't have this scholarship I wouldn't be able to continue my education.

My college offers an adequate number of evening courses.

Always	38	51%
Sometimes	33	45%
Never	3	3%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	12	

My college offers an adequate number of weekend courses.

Always	22	31%
Sometimes	29	42%
Never	18	26%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	17	

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

Always	44	56%
Sometimes	30	38%
Never	4	5%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	8	

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

Always	64	78%
Sometimes	19	22%
Never	0	0%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	3	

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

Always	70	85%
Sometimes	13	15%
Never	0	0%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	3	

Early childhood advisors at my college are available.

Always	55	66%
Sometimes	27	33%
Never	1	1%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	3	

The registration process at my college is easy.

Always	56	67%
Sometimes	27	33%
Never	0	0%
Don't know, n/a, or blank	3	

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

- How can the community college be more helpful to you?
- By contacting you using different methods when classes are dropped, not only use one form of contact (email, mail, or phone).
- Screen test more carefully; multiple times same question included in test
- Make personal calls to new students to see how they are doing.
- More frequent online classes
- My adviser could answer calls and emails faster. It is really hard to do Practicums when you have your own In-Home daycare. I have been lucky so far to have someone to help me while I am at my practicum but sometimes I have been scared. I wish they could honor them at your own center or In-home facility.
- Being sure the courses transfer & count towards B.D.
- To allow move evening classes at the location which is closer to my house?
- Just having advisors who are aware of the degree I am striving for is extremely helpful. Having professors understand that they are teaching their students and being able to relay it in a classroom setting has a benefit to me learning more.
- I think that the program credits max is stupid I think that should not be an issue.
- They do a wonderful job.
- I just need to figure out how to student teach while having a child care.
- Getting in contact with financial aid is usually hard.
- Honestly I don't think there is anything else they can do.
- The website for online classes wouldn't always work.
- College has helped me to be more professional and efficient.
- I feel that they could work more with full-time working students in the program.
- Making sure that I am not taking unnecessary courses
- The college does a great job helping me.
- They've been so helpful & I'm super thankful for that.
- UNK is amazing.
- I think to be more understanding & helpful some staff I feel like just wants to be in and out of there without actually helping me.
- Better communication about what classes I need and transfer from CCC to UNK

- I would love to see TEACH Master's degree program added.
- Make registration process easier
- Get back to me sooner with questions I may have.
- Keep making sure I am choosing the right classes of the field I am receiving my associates in.
- Have a prepared plan established prior to the semester.
- Understand that with TEACH program we are not always able to be full time so if they had a route to go that was for part timers that would be great.
- Help more especially people who graduated long ago & don't get the hang of things right away.
- Give me a plan of what to take when in order so I know what is next.
- Explain what other classes are needed.

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

- I love the TEACH program!!
- I am very thankful to have TEACH.
- I greatly appreciate you ladies.
- This is a wonderful program and I'm glad to be a part of it. Keep doing what you do! I appreciate everything you guys do!
- Grant money I am awarded based on income & dependents should pay for my 10% of TEACH & I should be entitled to a refund of what is left
- The advisors and book store at Kearney are so great and personal with the TEACH program students I feel so special, heard and understood with all of them.
- I have had many problems with Metro CC. I am still waiting for a reply on my appeal.
- As I mentioned earlier it would be nice if I could promise to stay in the early childhood area for 18 months to meet the requirement. Since I am getting older, I would like to start working in a preschool after graduating I currently own my childcare.
- Thanks so much for giving me the opportunity to go back to school.
- I am very appreciative for the opportunity. Thank you.
- Thank you.
- I am very happy that this opportunity will not only benefit me but also benefit the children I will have the privilege to teach in the future.
- I just want to give a big thank you to the counselors. They have been helpful with the entire process and very supportive.
- Thank you for giving me the opportunity to receive the TEACH scholarship.
- Having 4 hours of work time to complete school work has been so important. I do not know what I would do without it. I feel like I can go to school and work and still not feel like I am neglecting my family.
- Thank you very much.
- Thank you for supporting me in achieving my dreams.
- Thank you for all the help and the support.
-