



Spring 2017 Newsletter

Our Field Is Professionalizing!

Perhaps you've seen this on our Facebook page. (If not, go there and "Like" us now!) But, Washington D.C. is the first in the United States to require degrees for early childhood teachers working in child care programs.

There is plenty of scientific research that shows quality early childhood education has a positive life-long impact for children three years old and younger. Having a degree in early childhood is a way to ensure that teachers are qualified to nurture children at such a crucial phase of development. High-quality early childhood education helps children, especially disadvantaged ones, for the

rest of their lives, but low-quality preschool can hurt more than none at all.

What is happening in Washington D.C. will happen in other states, including Nebraska. I'm not saying this to scare you. It's definitely not something that will happen overnight. Slowly, but surely, our field is professionalizing and higher education, like the degree you are currently working on with your T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NEBRASKA Scholarship, will be a requirement to work in an early childhood setting.

I applaud each of you for taking the steps to earn your degree in early childhood education! I

also highly encourage you to share this with your co-workers who aren't working on their higher education in early childhood at this time. Tell them about the T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship and how we can help make this happen for them!

Early childhood education is not just nurturing... it IS rocket science!



What Is "Third Party Billing"?

Third-party billing is a form of billing where an intermediary handles the invoicing and payment between a purchaser and a vendor. The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NEBRASKA Scholarship is third party billing. We are the "intermediary", you are the "purchaser", and your

school is the "vendor". The T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship is NOT considered financial aid. The financial aid office at most schools will be confused if you try to talk to them about your T.E.A.C.H. scholarship. If you have questions about your student account, you will want to talk to the business office at your

school. If you have additional financial aid, such as a Pell Grant, you would still talk to the financial aid office about that. Please let me know if you have any questions about third party billing!



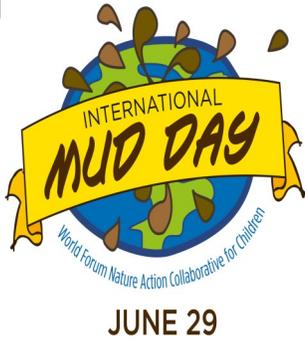
Please help us spread the word about T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NEBRASKA!

Our information can be found in the "Education" section of the Nebraska AEYC website, www.nebraskaaeyc.org.

Thank you for your support!

Inside this issue:

International Mud Day	2
Step Up To Quality	2
Book Receipts	2
Your Personal Reminder	3
Professional Record System	3
Cashing & Depositing Checks	3
20 Questions	4



Thursday, June 29th Will Be International Mud Day

Have you heard of it? Michelle Rupiper, a former board president of NeAEYC, introduced it to me and I wanted to share it with you! The creators of International Mud Day wanted to find a way to help all of the children of the Earth feel closer to each other... and what a better way to do it than through the Earth itself? The collaboration that

followed has inspired educators, children, and families across the globe to celebrate International Mud Day together each year on June 29th. Regardless of age, race, and religion, covered in mud, we all look the same! There are countless ways to celebrate International Mud Day, but all of them have one thing in common: you have to get dirty. One

of the most creative and fun activities that would be perfect to do is making sculptures or mud cakes. You could even make a homemade mud pit using a blow-up pool. Just make sure that you're prepared to throw out your clothes once you're done because there is no way those clothes will ever get clean again! I hope you can experience it!

"Quality means doing it right when no one is looking."

Henry Ford

Step Up to Quality

The Step Up to Quality orientation is now available in a convenient online format for center directors and family child care owners! The pre-registration form can be accessed from the training page of the Step Up to Quality website at:

<http://www.education.ne.gov/StepUpToQuality/training.htm>.

Or directly at:

<http://goo.gl/forms/7iJnwHFRVW>.

Book Receipts

The T.E.A.C.H. program pays for 100% of the cost of your book purchase up front, if you use your T.E.A.C.H. account that is set up for you in your campus bookstore.

WE HIGHLY ENCOURAGE ALL OF OUR STUDENTS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS! However, if you get your books before or after your account is active and pay for them yourself, the T.E.A.C.H. program will still

reimburse you minus your 10%. **BUT**, we need a copy of your receipt **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!** Please don't delay in sending us a copy of your receipt or wait for us to ask for it! Don't forget, the T.E.A.C.H. program can only pay for your required textbooks. We cannot pay for supplies. Thank you!



Your Personal Reminder



Early Childhood Professional Record System

Check out an easier way to keep track of your training records!!! Create a professional record in the Nebraska Early

Childhood Professional Record System. Having a professional record will allow you to track and manage your professional development, which includes your training

history, **higher education**, early childhood related credentials, and employment history. Visit <http://ecrecords.education.ne.gov/HomePage.aspx>.



Cashing and Depositing Checks



When you receive a check from T.E.A.C.H. through the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children, please cash or deposit it as soon as you can. As an outstanding check, our accountant can't remove it from her records until you have taken action. Thank you for your help in this matter!

Upcoming Events

**Please note
when Julie will be
out of the office
and plan
accordingly!**

June 5th: MPCC—Summer Term Begins

June 6th: MCC—Summer Term Begins

Julie Out Of The Office

June 9th: NeAEYC Planning Retreat—

Office Closed

July 4th: Independence Day—

Office Closed

July 7th-13th—Julie Out Of The Office

July 10th: SCC—Summer Term Begins

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®
NEBRASKA

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® is a
licensed program of Child Care
Services Association.



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20 Questions

This month's section of "20 Questions" features Mariah from Lancaster County! She is currently a teacher at a child care program in Lincoln. She has been on an Associate Degree Scholarship model since the Fall 2016 term.

1. **First name only:** Mariah
2. **Where were you born?** Lincoln, NE
3. **What is something you are proud of?** Buying my 2004 Ford Escape over a year ago.
4. **What is something you're afraid of?** Spiders! I have never liked them! And heights.
5. **What are your favorite**

TV shows? I don't watch much TV, but I do like to watch Full House.

6. **What's your least favorite subject in school?** English
7. **Do you have any pets?** One dog! His name is L.J.
8. **Do you have any brothers or sisters?** Two sisters, a brother, and a stepbrother
9. **What is your favorite season?** Spring or fall!
10. **Do you have a favorite holiday?** Thanksgiving!
11. **What's your favorite food?** I love to eat chicken!
12. **What do you like to do in**

your free time? I like to workout, spend time with my family/friends/boyfriend, and just relax at home.

13. **Would you rather live in a place that was always hot or a place that was always cold?** I would rather live in a place that's always hot. I can't stand the cold for too long!
14. **What is something you wish you could do?** Travel the world without having to worry about spending money!
15. **If you had to describe yourself in three words, what would they be?** Loving, caring, and friendly

16. **Do you play, or have you played, an instrument?** Nope! I have never played one.

17. **If I weren't a teacher, I'd be...** A counselor.

18. **What is your favorite color?** Blue!

19. **Do you prefer writing in pen or pencil?** Pencil

20. **What is your favorite subject in school?** Has always been math!

Thank you, Mariah, for your responses! If you would like to participate, please send me your responses to these 20 questions or create 20 questions of your own!