



A Program of Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children

TEACH Early Childhood® NEBRASKA Year 2025

Program Evaluation for Sponsoring Programs

42 responses / 45 Recipients (93.3%)

- 38 responses returned via **online digital survey**
- 4 responses returned via **physical mail survey/e-mail**

County: Adams (3), Boone, Box Butte, Cass, Dawes, Dawson, Deuel, Douglas (11), Gage (3), Holt, Knox, Lancaster (6), Madison, Phelps, Platte, Richardson, Sarpy, Scottsbluff, Sherman, Thurston (2), York

Colleges attended:

- Central Community College (8)
- Chadron State (1)
- Metropolitan Community College (13)
- Northeast Community College (4)
- Southeast Community College (12)
- University of Nebraska-Kearney (11)
- University of Nebraska-Lincoln (1)
- Western Nebraska Community College (3)

How many full-time teachers and assistant teachers are working in your program?

- 841 Teachers total
- 20 Teachers on average from respondent programs

How many of those staff are scholarship recipients?

- 70 Scholarship Recipients total
- 1.7 on average from respondent programs

How did you learn about TEACH? (Check all that apply)

- Staff At My Program- 20 (49%)
- Presentation/Training- 9 (22%)
- Professional Development Partnership- 7 (17%)
- Newsletter/Magazine- 5 (12%)
- Nebraska AEYC Website- 4 (10%)
- Another Participant- 4 (10%)
- Flyer received by e-mail- 4 (10%)
- Flyer received by mail- 3 (7%)
- Local College/University- 2 (5%)
- Other - 4 (10%)

The requirement that scholarship recipients complete a minimum number of course credit hours was:

- About right- 30 (71%)
- Very easy- 10 (24%)
- Somewhat difficult to do- 2 (5%)
- **Comments:**
 - A lot to do in a short period of time
 - Unsure about this answer - sorry

Giving scholarship recipients paid off during the week was:

- Somewhat difficult to do- 21 (50%)
- Easy to do- 12 (29%)
- Very difficult to do- 9 (21%)
- **Comments:**
 - We are short-staffed, so this was difficult
 - we always struggle to have enough staff, so giving one of our FT staff hours off has been difficult but we manage
 - Staffing has been difficult in general, so adding those breaks into our routine was tricky
 - Staffing
 - We don't have staffing
 - I always made it happen, But it got difficult because of staffing.
 - If staffing does not allow for the time, it is really hard to schedule. Also, considering staff scheduled time off and 2.5 hours of plan time, weekly supervision and now doing a practicum and on top of that scheduling 4 hours a week in teach it really seems like the teacher is out of the classroom more than she is in the classroom.
 - Small program- means closing to accommodate
 - Finding staff to cover their shift each week. Some weeks are easier than others
 - Difficult to do especially when they are working short staffed and they feel as if they need to be with the students.
 - It can be a challenge, but we make it work. It requires some flexibility from staff at times.
 - staffing struggles
 - Hard to do with short staff
 - Sometimes we are short on staff so it was harder to get her time in those weeks
 - Difficult due to staff shortage
 - Staffing shortages make it harder to cover shifts
 - Staffing issues in classrooms make coverage difficult for T.E.A.C.H participant
 - Depends on staffing each day
 - Low childcare staffing across the state - minimum wage increases cause stress on how we can pay employees who are not in the classroom.
 - When we are short staffed it is hard to get them out of the classroom for set aside study time.

The program's share of tuition and book costs was:

- About right- 32 (98%)
- Too little - 1 (1%)
- No answer- 1 (1%)
- **Comments:**
 - This question does not specifically apply to my role or decision making in this program

Awarding recipients a raise or bonus was:

- Easy to do- 24 (59%)
- Somewhat difficult to do- 16 (39%)
- Very difficult to do- 2 (2%)
- No answer- 1 (1%)
- **Comments:**
 - profit margins are so small in this business
 - funding levels are not increasing but costs are, so this is sometimes a little difficult
 - Centers numbers are very low so not alot of income to cover raises.
 - Depends on enrollment at the time the raise/bonus is to be issued
 - tight budget
 - Need approval from supervisor
 - This question does not specifically apply to my role or decision making in this program
 - If there are concerns around performance in the classroom it can be hard to give the recipient a raise.

When I needed help, TEACH staff was helpful.

- Agree strongly- 27 (66%)
- Agree somewhat- 13 (32%)
- Disagree somewhat- 1 (1%)
- Disagree strongly- 0 (0%)
- No answer- 1 (1%)
- **Comments:**
 - Have not worked with TEACH staff in my role as yet

Information that I received from TEACH was easy to understand.

- Agree strongly- 24 (57%)
- Agree somewhat- 17 (41%)
- Disagree somewhat- 0 (0%)
- Disagree strongly- 1 (2%)
- **Comments:**
 - Didn't receive any info
 - I read through the contracts on file that were already established

What TEACH resources are you aware of, do you use, and are they helpful? (Check all that apply)

- Website- 28 (68%)
- Newsletter- 25 (61%)
- Facebook- 4 (10%)
- Instagram- 0 (0%)
- Email- 1 (2%)
- No answer/None- 3 (7%)

Would you recommend TEACH Early Childhood® Scholarships to other child care programs?

- Yes- 41 (98%)
- No- 1 (%)
- **Comments:**
 - Yes & No. Its a great benefit but most of the teachers I've paid for Teach have left to go to the public schools and don't finish out the contract with us so were out that investment
 - IF they can afford it and have staffing to cover
 - I'm just learning about this -- but after talking to Julie, I think this is a great opportunity for our staff.

Have you recommended TEACH outside of your program?

- Yes- 27 (64%)
- No- 15 (36%)
- **If yes, who have you recommended it to and how?**
 - To others I have met at trainings.
 - All my other staff
 - High School students
 - We recommend that all teaching staff who are seeking to further their education apply for the TEACH scholarship!
 - Discussed the pros and cons at Director meetings
 - Other centers
 - I've recommended it to many people back when I was living in Chicago as a director
 - Other superintendents- casually- usually 1:1 in meeting settings
 - OTHER PROGRAMS
 - Other programs and people at other programs
 - Applicants, other program directors
 - Daycare Providers
 - Next generation childcare
 - Other owner/directors I am friends with
 - To fellow directors face to face
 - other directors
 - We will share it on Facebook
 - Other ECE programs; childcare centers
 - Brought up the T.E.A.C.H program to those graduating from a 2-year program.
 - Other Program Administrators
 - To other programs

How can TEACH be more helpful to you? (Please be specific)

- N/A
- Nothing at this time.
- Easier to find resources: please include the links for them when you send out email reminders (time off for example, I struggle to find on the website)
- Really, we love the TEACH scholarship even when things are difficult. It is a great opportunity for staff and programs alike.
- Help centers recover the \$ lost when students dont fulfill their contract
- I would love to do it myself
- I think it is great right now for our center and teachers.
- I think the program is adequate at this time. I honestly can't think of anything at this time.
- NA
- It's pretty great!
- I am not certain at this time
- At the beginning, I felt like I didn't receive all the information as a whole packet. I got several different letters, but I still felt like I didn't get all the information.
- More communication to the teachers and director of what is going on before each semester
- Honestly not really sure
- I'm a new director at the Center -- an orientation would be helpful for me!

Has your program's participation in the TEACH Early Childhood® Program led to increasing fees to parents?

- No- 40 (98%)
- Yes- 1 (1%)
- No answer- 1 (1%)
- **Comments:**
 - Pay teacher more, increase tuition

Do you plan to continue sponsoring TEACH scholarship recipients in the upcoming year?

- Yes- 39 (95%)
- No- 2 (5%)
- No answer- 1 (1%)

If no, why not?

- Staff is graduating
- My program cannot afford the cost
- I believe we have a waiting list

As an overall education of the TEACH Early Childhood® Program, how satisfied are you?

- Very satisfied- 31 (74%)
- Somewhat satisfied- 11 (26%)
- Somewhat dissatisfied- 0 (0%)
- Very dissatisfied- 0 (0%)
- No answer- 0 (0%)

Is there anything you would want to share with other programs, such as how you manage release time, communicate with your student about school, etc.?

- N/A
- Nothing at this time.
- Paying the extra money is tough, but money is tough in childcare no matter what. Just do it, there is so much value in knowledgeable staff it ends up paying off. Better quality staff means higher family satisfaction and a higher enrollment number. Staff are happier when they are well equipped, as are the children and thats worth it all!
- Its pretty easy to accomplish
- It is a great opportunity for both staff and programs! Setting a routine for the release time has helped us, and planning a budget for the wage increases has been helpful as well. It has helped us with staff retention due to the support the students feel.
- Just lots of communication and making sure that everything fits for both the teacher and program.
- NA
- I am purposely over staffed to allow teachers to have teach time
- No
- This is such a great way to support your Teachers and raise the level of care/education they offer the children
- If anyone has good tips please let me know.

Since enrolling in college courses....

The recipient has increased their early childhood knowledge and skills:

- Agree strongly- 25 (59%)
- Agree somewhat- 13 (31%)
- Disagree somewhat- 4 (10%)
- Disagree strongly- 0 (0%)

The recipient has improved the quality of their teaching techniques and practices:

- Agree strongly- 25 (59%)
- Agree somewhat- 13 (31%)
- Disagree somewhat- 3 (7%)
- Disagree strongly- 1 (3%)

The recipient has increased enthusiasm in the classroom:

- Agree strongly- 23 (55%)
- Agree somewhat- 15 (35%)
- Disagree somewhat- 4 (10%)
- Disagree strongly- 0 (0%)

The recipient has influenced their co-workers to use new teaching techniques:

- Agree strongly- 20 (48%)
- Agree somewhat- 16 (38%)
- Disagree somewhat- 6 (14%)
- Disagree strongly- 0 (0%)

The recipient has improved relationships with the children and their families:

- Agree strongly- 23 (55%)
- Agree somewhat- 17 (40%)
- Disagree somewhat- 2 (5%)
- Disagree strongly- 0 (0%)

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

- Thank you for doing this!
- Thank You
- I think that additional follow-up on teaching strategies, etc. through TEACH would be good. It is hard to know what they are all supposed to be working on unless there is some sort of follow-up being done.
- She is so experienced she could teach these courses. I don't feel they have been challenging for her. She is a great teacher and hope she continues to push through so she can get her degree.
- I have a staff who has taken 3 years to complete a 2 year degree. I have 4 other staff who want to get on teach but due to the amount of time this staff is taking others cannot participate. The amount of time staff is receiving for their teach time while having to also take a practicum is extremely hard when having to find coverage for this full time staff. The schools staff are taking their practicums at are not flexible with allowing staff to complete their practicums at their working location so they are able to work in other classrooms for the experience.
- I WILL BE HAVING MORE STAFF ENROLL IN YOUR PROGRAM.
- IDC currently don't have students in the TEACH program. I have three staff members planning to enroll in January
- We LOVE the TEACH program!
- Going through the process with staff has been a learning experience as I feel there is a lot I don't know how to do but slowly getting the hang of it!! Julie is always amazing help.
- No but I think this program is an asset to the early childhood educators in Nebraska
- This is a great program! I am so glad my employee was able to receive the scholarship and improve her knowledge!
- I don't feel the coaches are very active in participating with the teachers like we had hoped.
- Would like to have pamphlets or flyers to post
- Thanks you for continuing to offer this program.
- We are so thankful for TEACH, it has allowed our staff to work on higher education. It has moved paras to lead teachers. Thank you!