

Intent for Work Force Development Scholarship

Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education

This scholarship, provided by the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education, is available for child care professionals working in early childhood centers/ programs. This scholarship allows recipients to further their education in the field of early childhood and qualify for teaching positions in Alabama's First Class Pre-K classrooms.

Facts:

- This scholarship provides recipients with the necessary credentials to obtain a job in First Class Pre-K.
- This scholarship is for qualified child care professionals working in early childhood centers/programs (i.e. child care, Head Start, faith-based, Title I, First Class); priority is given to child care professionals in First Class pre-K settings
- The scholarship is funded through the Department of Early Childhood Education
- Applicants can obtain CDA, AAS, BS in Child Development or Early Childhood Education from an accredited in-state institution
- Applicants are encouraged to apply for other financial aid (i.e. Pell grant, TEACH, Leadership)
- This scholarship may pay for students to take the same class only 1 time

Eligibility Criteria:

- Applicant has to live in Alabama
- Applicant has to be working in an early childhood education setting
- Applicant must attend an accredited college/university in Alabama
- Award based on eligibility of funds

Application Requirements:

- Provide a completed application and verifications of residency and employment in early childhood in Alabama
- Be employed in early childhood program
- Apply for college admission, complete all admission requirements and receive a letter of acceptance from the institutions

Participation Requirements:

- Scholarship funds from DECE are only available for one course per semester. If students plan to take multiple courses in the summer, permission must be given by the scholarship administrator prior to the student registering for the courses.
- Students receiving a DECE scholarship must send scholarship administrator a copy of the course registration form in order for DECE to send monies to the institution prior to drop/add registration date
- Maintain 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average in general education classes and at least a 3.0 in specialized coursework
- Scholarship recipients must submit their grades to the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education at the end of each semester. If an applicant receives a “D”, “F”, or “incomplete” for the semester, the applicant must repay funding that was awarded through the scholarship or pay for a required subsequent course
- Students must follow college procedures and deadlines for withdrawing from courses. Scholarship recipients must notify the scholarship administrator at DECE if withdrawal is done after the last date for drop/add registration.
- If recipients are unable to attend classes for valid reasons, a letter must be submitted to the scholarship administrator at DECE to avoid repayment of tuition to DECE

Instructions for Applying:

- All applicants must meet the ADECE criteria for the Work Force Development Scholarship.
- Applicants who meet the criteria may access the Work Force Development Scholarship at the following link:

<https://www.grantinterface.com/Common/LogOn.aspx?urlkey=dcaalabamayahoo>
- Applicants will need to “Create a New Account” and “logon”
 - o Click on the “Apply” button on the left side.
 - o Then click on “Workforce Development Scholarship”.
 - o The “Name of the Project” should be the name of the college/university that you plan to attend.
 - o If applicants ARE NOT currently working in an Alabama First Class Pre-K site, they must do the following:

§ For name of Agency, put the name of the agency where you are employed

§ For Tax-ID number enter “00-0000000”

- After applicants complete and submit the application on line, the scholarship administrator (Dr. Trellis Smith) will begin the approval process.
- If the application is approved, the applicant will be notified and asked to electronically sign a Memorandum of Agreement.
- After the Memorandum of agreement is signed by all required parties, funds for the applicant will be forwarded to the college/university in which the applicant is enrolled.

Contact Information:

Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education
Scholarship Administrator - Dr. Trellis Smith
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