



T.E.A.C.H. TALK

January - March 2018



A Special Message from Division Leadership

Hello and welcome to our third edition of T.E.A.C.H. Talk! By now most of you are preparing for the Spring 2018 semester. We appreciate your dedication to advancing you and/or your staff's education. The early childhood field is as challenging as it is rewarding. Did you know that the child care workforce is one of the lowest paid professions in the US? In addition, nearly half of the child care workforce is on some form of public assistance. Despite these challenges, there are many dedicated and skilled teachers and administrators who remain committed to teaching and caring for our young children. T.E.A.C.H. understands these challenges, which is why we believe strongly in our scholarship program. Our focus on increasing the education of the child care workforce and ensuring that teachers and administrators are sufficiently compensated as they gain more education, encouraging them to stay in the field. This is why the compensation and commitment components of the scholarship program are extremely important. Research has shown a direct link between teacher education, compensation and quality of the classroom, and you should be proud that you are playing a large part in ensuring all kids have access to high quality early care and education.

As you continue on your educational journey or that of your staff, please know that the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NC Scholarship Program is committed to making the experience as easy and rewarding as possible. We reward scholarship participants who complete and renew contracts and are making progress toward a degree with a bonus through our Contract Renewal Incentive Bonus (C.R.I.B.) program in addition to raises or bonuses you already receive for completing contracts. We have a staff of caring and dedicated counselors who work hard to support your journey, whether answering scholarship questions, lending a sympathetic ear, offering strategies for success or connecting you to resources when you're struggling. Never hesitate to contact your counselor for any reason. She will be your biggest ally and cheerleader as you work toward and reach your professional development milestones. We encourage you to reflect often on your educational goals and share them with us. Professional development planning is essential to keeping you on track, and we care about your success. It is not easy balancing work, school, family and other personal commitments, but you are doing just that and should be very proud of yourself. Keep up the great work!



Best wishes,

Amy Duffy, Program Manager

What's New

Beginning January 2018, the Council for Professional Recognition has increased the Child Development Associate (CDA) assessment fee for paper submissions up to \$500. Fees for online submissions are still \$425. T.E.A.C.H. will help with 85% of this cost for eligible recipients.



Semester Reminders

- Please remember to send us a copy of your Fall 2017 grades by sending in an unofficial transcript.
- If you completed your degree program, please send us a copy of the actual degree.
- Send in your pre-authorization forms in a timely manner. It may take up to 2 business days to send an authorization for your classes.
- When authorization for classes is secured it is sent to your college. You will also receive a copy in your personal email if provided.
- A new pre-authorization form will need to be submitted if you change your classes.
- Remember to inform us if you change your password for your online school portal.
- Tuition and book receipts should be sent in as soon as possible.
- Sponsoring centers, please submit release time claims throughout the semester.
- Please pay invoices in a timely manner. Past due balances can affect scholarship activity.
- Sponsoring centers and recipients should inform us of any employment changes immediately.
- Current pay stub should be submitted with all information update forms.
- Send in proof of compensation received.
- Notify us of any changes with your contact information to avoid delayed communications once received from sponsoring facility.

Facility Spotlight

Partners in Learning is a nationally accredited, 5-star licensed program. We have two locations that serve more than 200 children ages 6 weeks-12 years. Our organization serves children on-site and in the children's homes.



Partners in Learning has made it a priority to establish a comprehensive, community-based, family-centered system of care to meet the needs of children with disabilities and their families. Our vision is that families and the community will have the knowledge and skills necessary to contribute significantly to children's optimal growth and development. Partners in Learning's educational philosophy is research-driven and experience-rich to help young children learn in a way that fosters a life-long love of learning.

Much of our success can be credited to T.E.A.C.H. The scholarships they provide for our staff to go to school are invaluable. Most of our staff could not further their education without T.E.A.C.H. The additional financial incentives also provide a safety net for our single parents who struggle to find sitters for them to attend school. Our staff have continued to increase in education and the outcomes for our children just get better and better, as research has consistently proven.

Emilie Scharf, Director

Recipient Spotlight

My name is Lechan Williamson and I am a T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarship recipient. I can't begin to explain how much the program is helping me achieve my goals. I was working as a lead teacher in a 4-year old classroom at a Durham Head Start when I decided I wanted to get my teaching license. Someone reminded me about the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarship and suggested I apply for acceptance. While I knew that I wanted to get my license I didn't realize all the benefits that the scholarship would afford me. That was in 2009, now fast forward to 2018 and I am now an NC PreK teacher who is just a few months away from finishing coursework to become a licensed teacher. Thanks to the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarship I am able to have my classes paid and use the paid release time away from the center to go to class.



Did You Know?

- The 45th annual Advancing Skills and Knowledge (A.S.K.) Conference will be held Sat., Feb. 24, 2018, at East Chapel Hill High School. This conference provides workshops and training for child care providers. There will be vendors, and lunch will be provided for a prepaid fee of \$10. Visit www.childcareservices.org to register and for more details about this year's conference. Please join us for this day of training.
- The National T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® and Child Care WAGE\$ conference will be held April 24-25, 2018, at the William & Ida Friday Center in Chapel Hill. It is a two-day event with workshops, keynote speakers, plenary presentations and networking. You can find more information on our website or by contacting the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood National Center at info@teachecnationalcenter.org. Registration will be available in February.
- Most community colleges are moving away from WebAdvisor. They are now using the self-service access on the individual's online portal. This is where you can retrieve account information and unofficial transcripts that we request each semester. If you haven't tried it yet, go ahead and log in to explore all the features.



Congratulations & Acknowledgements

This section is dedicated to our Fall 2017 graduates. What you have accomplished is no small task. We are so proud of you. Take a bow!

Associate Degree Graduates

Crystal Bateman (Spring 2017 graduate)
 Constance Curry
 Tiffany Dorn
 Asgari Khanam
 Victoria McKoy
 Kristin Schneider
 Hydeia Washington
 Terry Whitworth

Bachelor's Degree Graduate

Tiawana Thorpe

CDA Certificate Holders

Helen Armstrong
 Tamika Easterling
 Wanda Hardy
 Setericka Kennon
 Kristen Meacham

Administration Credential Holders

Shannon Batts
 Rebecca Byers
 Valerie Henley
 Jessica Jankovictz
 Sandra Shaw
 Heather Smit
 Volunda Richardson



Birth-Kindergarten License Holder

Ashley Melyan (Spring 2017)

Master's Degree Graduates

Ashley Schauer
 Christy Thalheimer



Please note that the recipients recognized here have provided documentation showing proof of their certificate or degree prior to the date of publication. If you received your certificate or degree in Fall 2017 and your name was not listed, please submit documentation as soon as possible and we will recognize you in the next issue of T.E.A.C.H. Talk.

Your Voice Matters

This Valentine's Day send a heartfelt message to your NC Legislators thanking them for supporting and investing in early care and education. Please share how programs such as the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® NC Scholarship Program have benefited you, your employer and North Carolina's children. Go to www.ncleg.net to find the contact information for your legislator.



Meet Your T.E.A.C.H. NC Team!

Edith Locke
Division Vice President

Marsha Baldwin
Scholarship Counselor II

Danisha Devane
Administrative Assistant II

Pam McGowan
Scholarship Counselor III

Schquita Battle
Outreach Coordinator

Amy Duffy
Program Manager

Tomonica Rice-Yarborough
Scholarship Counselor II

Mildrienne Best
Scholarship Counselor III

Delta Farrington
Sr. Administrative Assistant

Kathy Thornton
Scholarship Counselor III

Kimberly Bynum
Scholarship Manager

Monica Livingston
Administrative Assistant II

Cindy Villani
Scholarship Counselor II

T.E.A.C.H. NC Team Member Spotlight

Counselor: Schquita Battle

Position: Outreach Coordinator

Education:

- Bachelor Degree in Child Development & Family Relations, North Carolina Central University
- Masters of Arts Degree in Human Services, Marriage & Families, Liberty University

Experience in the Classroom: 8 years

Years with T.E.A.C.H.: 6 years

Primary counselor for:

- Central Piedmont Community College
- Vance Granville Community College
- Associate Scholars Recipients
- Community Specialist Recipients



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® North Carolina Scholarship Program
PO Box 231 Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Phone: 919-967-3272 Fax: 919-967-7040



United Way
of the Greater Triangle
Certified Community Impact Partner