

# Early Childhood Council Professional Development Scholarship Application



*“National research underscores that quality child care is contingent upon the special training that caregivers receive in the profession of early childhood development. Both formal education levels and recent, specialized training in child development have been found quite consistently to be associated with high-quality interactions and children’s development. Teachers with a Child Development Associate (CDA) provide higher quality early learning experiences than those with only a high school diploma. And teachers with college degrees provide superior early learning experiences” (ZERO TO THREE – quoted in J. Ronald Lally’s book, For Our Babies: Ending the invisible neglect of America’s Infants).*

## **Overview:**

For many years the Early Childhood Council in partnership with The Buell Foundation has granted scholarships to early childhood professionals who are seeking continuing education in the early childhood field. In an effort to increase the quality of our early childhood professional development scholarship, we strive to leverage resources from employers, the T.E.A.C.H scholarship, COF Funding, Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and Early Head Start in order to maximize all funding sources for the improvement of the Early Childhood Professionals in the San Luis Valley.

## **Priorities:**

- ✓ Early Childhood Teacher Qualifications or Child Development Associate (CDA)
- ✓ Center Director Qualifications
- ✓ Students working towards an Associates of Applied Science (AAS) Degree in Early Childhood Education
- ✓ Student’s working towards a Bachelor’s Degree in the Early Childhood Education field (as funds are available)
- ✓ Student’s taking Early Childhood Education classes to further professional development (as funds are available)

**Deadlines:** Submit to Professional Development Manager, P. O. Box 1030, 401 Santa Fe, Alamosa, CO 81101, [pd@eccslv.org](mailto:pd@eccslv.org)

★ Spring: March 1<sup>st</sup>

★ Summer: June 30<sup>th</sup>

★ Fall: October 1<sup>st</sup>

## **Eligibility:**

Recipients of the ECC SLV Professional Development Scholarship for college level classes must meet the following criteria

- ✓ Reside in a San Luis Valley County (Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande or Saguache)

AND

- ✓ \*Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at <https://fafsa.ed.gov/>\*

AND

- ✓ A minimum of one (1) of the following
  - Current employee of a licensed Child Care Center (including Head Start / Colorado Preschool Program)
  - Current licensed Family Child Care Provider
  - Current employee of an organization or agency that works with children ages birth to age eight and their families
  - Currently enrolled in a college or university under an Early Childhood Education degree plan and/or taking ECE classes
  - Currently participating in ECC SLV CDA program with signed MOU

Scholarship program cannot guarantee ongoing funding. All scholarships through this program are dependent on continuing funding from our partners.

**ONLY COMPLETED APPLICATIONS WITH ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION  
WILL BE ACCEPTED (See self checklist)**

Requirements and Guidelines:

1. Scholarship dollars are limited and are intended to be used when all other available sources have been exhausted.
2. Grantees cannot assign or transfer scholarship.
3. The maximum scholarship for each participant is based on the cost of college credits in the field of Early Childhood at our local accredited college, university or the cost of a CDA.
  - ❖ **Up to** \$1,500 towards Early Childhood Teacher Qualifications, Child Development Associate (CDA) or Center Director Qualifications
  - ❖ **Up to** \$1,500 per year for up to 2 classes for students working towards an Associate's Degree in ECE
  - ❖ **Up to** \$1,500 per year for students working towards a Bachelor's Degree in ECE or relevant to the field
4. Complete the application for scholarship and submit it with supporting documentation to the ECC SLV. (Incomplete applications will not be accepted).
5. Complete the Free Application for Student Financial Aid (FASFA) and provide a copy of the award or denial (for college level courses).\*
6. Scholarship recipients must receive a 'C' grade or higher in the class paid for by this Scholarship AND maintain a 2.0 grade point average. A student who does not receive a grade of 'C' or better is NOT eligible for future scholarships. To regain eligibility, the student must refund the amount awarded for the ineligible class or repeat the class with an acceptable grade at their own expense. Applicants agree to provide documentation of grade(s) received in classes for which they have received ECC SLV scholarship.
7. Applicants who leave the San Luis Valley before using their awarded funds forfeit their award.
8. Create an account in the **Professional Development Information System** (PDIS) and complete your profile & apply for an Early Childhood Professional Credential.

By applying, participants represent that they are eligible, and agree to be bound by these rules and the decisions of the scholarship awards process.

Award Determinations: The applications will be reviewed for completeness and to determine if they meet the current eligibility requirements. The Professional Development Advisory Committee will assist in this work as needed. Scholarship Awards will be made directly to the College or University where student is enrolled or agency providing training. The ECC SLV reserves the right to evaluate applications on an individual basis for extenuating circumstances.

Items parked with \*asterisk are not needed if the student is participating in the ECC SLV CDA program.



## Early Childhood Council Professional Development Scholarship Application

***Please complete and return pages 3 & 4 ONLY!!***

Applicant / Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

College, University, or Agency name providing training: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Student ID number (**REQUIRED** for college students) \_\_\_\_\_

School/University Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone #/mobile # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

What class(es) are you registered for? *(This must be completed)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Course # ECE- \_\_\_\_\_ # of Credits \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Course # ECE- \_\_\_\_\_ # of Credits \_\_\_\_\_

In what semester and year? \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please attach a transcript, schedule showing your name, or other proof of registration. (REQUIRED)**

CDA/Preschool

CDA/Infant Toddler

PDIS Account:  Yes  No

Do you have a Bachelors' degree in ANY subject? \_\_\_ If YES, in what area of study? \_\_\_\_\_

Why are you taking additional ECE course work? \_\_\_\_\_

\*Have you applied for Financial Aid? : Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

(if NO: You are *not* eligible for this Scholarship) \*Not required for CDA

**\*Please attach award/denial notice (REQUIRED if taking College Courses)**

Are you eligible for any other funding from your employer, Veteran's benefits, Workforce Center, Etc.?

No \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever received a scholarship from the Early Childhood Council of the San Luis Valley in the past?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Semester and Year Received	Class taken	Grade Earned

Provide transcripts for past classes you have received scholarships for.

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## Early Childhood Council Professional Development Scholarship Application

**Please complete and return pages 3 & 4 ONLY!!**

Please read the following statements and indicate your agreement by initialing each statement and signing and dating this statement.

- ✓ I give permission to the Early Childhood Council San Luis Valley to communicate regarding my application and/or eligibility for financial assistance with the staff at the college where I am enrolled or intend to enroll. \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ I give permission to the Early Childhood Council San Luis Valley to receive, or exchange information concerning my enrollment, present or past grades or current classes with the faculty/staff at the college where I am enrolled. \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ I give permission to the Early Childhood Council San Luis Valley to communicate information concerning my enrollment/classes with my employer and/or Early Head Start staff. \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ I have read the Policies of the Professional Development Project outlined in this application and agree to follow them. \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ I understand it is my responsibility to submit a copy of my financial aid verification with this application to have it considered a completed application. \_\_\_\_\_ (N/A if CDA)
- ✓ I understand if awarded, it is my responsibility to submit my bill once received, to the Early Childhood Council for payment and I understand the scholarship award will be paid directly to the college / university or Agency providing training. \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ I understand it is my responsibility to submit a copy of my grades if awarded to the ECCSLV Professional Development Project. \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ I give permission to Early Childhood Council to use pictures, video or other media obtained from or including scholarship/incentive awards for promotion of the Early Childhood Council. \_\_\_\_\_
- ✓ **I understand that if I do not meet the requirements of the scholarship, I may be responsible for repayment of the full or partial amount of the scholarship.** \_\_\_\_\_

I have read/ initialed and agree to the above:

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Completed Application SELF checklist:

- Complete Application Form       Unofficial transcripts and/or degree plan       Bill from college/university