

T.E.A.C.H. Overview for Centers/Schools

What is T.E.A.C.H.?

T.E.A.C.H. (Teacher Education and Compensation Helps) Early Childhood® Vermont is a comprehensive scholarship program that provides the early childhood workforce access to educational opportunities and is helping establish a well-qualified, fairly-compensated and stable workforce for our children. Scholarships have five main components:

Education

T.E.A.C.H. helps participants to earn a required number of college credit hours in early childhood education.

Scholarship

T.E.A.C.H. offers financial support to pay for college courses, books, travel, and time away from work.

Compensation

T.E.A.C.H. participants earn a raise or bonus after successful completion of a year of education.

Commitment

T.E.A.C.H. participants agree to continue service as a child care professional in their current early care and education setting.

Counselor

T.E.A.C.H. Counselors offer support to navigate the college process and T.E.A.C.H. paperwork.



Who is Eligible for a Scholarship?

Anyone who:

- Works in a regulated preschool, child care center, or home program for at least 30 hours per week.
- Has worked with children birth to age 5 in their current program for at least 3 months.
- Is working toward an early childhood degree, credential, or endorsement at a Vermont college (*or would like to be*)
- Has the support of their employer (*if applicable*) and provides proof of participation or willingness to participate in a quality initiative such as STARS, Head Start, or NAEYC/NAFCC accreditation.

Scholarship Options

T.E.A.C.H. Vermont has a variety of scholarship options for people in many different positions including: assistant teachers, teachers, directors, family child care providers. We offer scholarships for:

- Child Care Apprenticeship
- Coursework leading to Associate degrees in early childhood
- Coursework leading to teaching licenses and/or early childhood endorsements for existing teaching licenses

What does T.E.A.C.H. provide?

- Percentage of tuition and book costs
- Travel/Internet stipend each semester
- Portion of the cost of participant's release time
- Bonus for participants
- Counseling for participants
- Administrative support for the program
- Collaboration with colleges and universities



What is expected of my program/me as a supervisor?

- Contribute a portion of tuition and book costs
- Provide teachers paid release time each semester, if applicable
- Award the teacher either a raise or bonus upon completion of the one-year scholarship contract, if applicable

What is expected of my employee(s)?

- Attend classes and successfully complete at the minimum credit hours during the T.E.A.C.H. contract year
- Continue employment at your program for an additional year, upon completion of the contract year
- Contribute 10% of tuition costs for each course. Many teachers are eligible for a financial aid, which may cover this 10% and the center's portion.

Choosing a contract type

T.E.A.C.H. has two basic models for full time staff. In all models, teachers contribute 10% of the cost of tuition and books and programs provide paid release time. A Counseling Specialist can help you choose the model that works best for your program.

- The **raise** model: programs contribute 10% of the cost of tuition, and agree to provide a 1.5% (or greater) raise, above any raise all staff receive.
- The **bonus** model: programs contribute 10% of the cost of tuition, and agree to award a bonus, if applicable.

How much will it cost?

Costs vary depending on how much financial aid an employee receives, how many courses they take, book costs, and which model you choose. T.E.A.C.H. Counselors are able to provide you with an estimate tailored to your program.

Other things to consider:

- Contract requirements
 - Reimburse Vermont AEYC when billed, for your percentage of tuition.
 - Provide Vermont AEYC with demographic information about the program.
 - Notify Vermont AEYC with any changes in the participant's employment status.
- Program Options - you have the ability to create your own internal policies for T.E.A.C.H. You might consider policies about:
 - Which employees will be supported.
 - How many individuals your program can support at a time.
 - The consequences of quitting/termination.