

# Early Childhood Scholarships

*Investing in early childhood professionals and their careers*

The quality of New Mexico's early childhood programs and statewide system depends upon the caring, knowledgeable people who work with children and families. The New Mexico Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD), in partnership with Central New Mexico Community College-Ingenuity, provides scholarship opportunities to make it possible for early childhood professionals to complete coursework leading to advanced credentials and degrees.



## Benefits

- Scholarships are available to meet the needs of early childhood education and care professionals at all levels.
- Scholarship Coaches assist scholars along their career pathway.
- Create a personalized professional development plan.
- Awards include one year of funding with possibility of renewal.



## Eligibility

Scholarships are based on a cost-share model and are open to New Mexico early childhood educators, administrators, and program directors who:

- Have a high school diploma or equivalent (GED/HSE).
- Are enrolled in a qualifying New Mexico higher education institution working toward an early childhood education degree or New Mexico Child Development Certificate.
- Work a minimum of 20 hours per week at a:
  - New Mexico licensed, or registered home, child care program;
  - State-funded PreK or early PreK program in a community based setting;
  - Head Start or Early Head Start;
  - State-funded Home Visiting Program; or
  - Family Infant Toddler (FIT) program

## How to Apply

- Fill out the application form online at [bit.ly/ec-scholarship-apply](https://bit.ly/ec-scholarship-apply) or [bit.ly/ececd-beca](https://bit.ly/ececd-beca) en Español.
- Once scholarship is awarded, begin work with an assigned coach.
- Remain eligible by meeting the requirements for grades, credit hours, and continued employment with an eligible early childhood program.

## Available Scholarships

### Associate's Degree or Certificate Scholarship

#### SUPPORTS:

- An Associate's degree (AA) in early childhood education or New Mexico Child Development Certificate (CDC)
- Home Visitors pursuing an AA in early childhood education, social work, counseling, or related field

#### COVERS:

- 100% of tuition
- 100% of books

#### SPONSORING PROGRAM/ EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY:

- Weekly release time for scholar to attend class

#### SCHOLAR RESPONSIBILITY:

- Travel expenses
- Minimum of six credit hours per school year
- C grade or higher in all classes

### Bachelor's Degree Scholarship

#### SUPPORTS:

- Child care and PreK professionals pursuing a Bachelor's degree (BA) in early childhood education.
- Home Visitors pursuing a Bachelor's in early childhood education, social work, counseling, or related field

#### COVERS:

- 100% of tuition
- 50% of books

#### SPONSORING PROGRAM/ EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY:

- Weekly release time for scholar to attend class

#### SCHOLAR RESPONSIBILITY:

- Travel expenses
- Minimum of six credit hours per school year
- C grade or higher in all classes

### Family Home Professional Scholarship

#### SUPPORTS:

Family/home child care professionals seeking

- The Child Development Certificate, or
- An Associate's or Bachelor's degree in early childhood education

#### COVERS:

- 100% of tuition
- 100% of books

#### SCHOLAR RESPONSIBILITY:

- Travel expenses
- Minimum of six credit hours per school year
- C grade or higher in all classes

#### SPONSORING PROGRAM/ EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITY:

- Weekly release time for scholar to attend class

### Master's Degree and Doctorate Scholarships

Graduate-level scholarships may become available, depending upon funding. Visit [nmececd.org/scholarships](http://nmececd.org/scholarships) for details.

ECECD works to connect New Mexico students with scholarships that support careers in the early childhood field.

Visit [nmececd.org/scholarships](http://nmececd.org/scholarships) or [eceedscholarship.org](http://eceedscholarship.org) for more information.



### Early Childhood Scholarship Information & Contact:

To connect with a Scholarship Coach today, reach out to:  
505-224-ECEC (3232)

[info@eceedscholarship.org](mailto:info@eceedscholarship.org)

Additional information:

<https://eceedscholarship.org/>

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**Early Childhood**

Education & Care Department