

Scholarships

Early childhood professionals have access to coaches from multiple training partners to facilitate planning, coaching and mentoring. This supports educational advancement toward higher quality in our early childhood programs.

For over 20 years, Early Childhood Advisory Council and its support office the Kentucky Governor's Office of Early Childhood, has worked in partnership with the Kentucky Higher Education Association Authority (KHEAA) to review process and approve all scholarships. Recipients must be currently employed at an early childhood center or program. They are afforded \$1800 per year, which must be directly related to early childhood. Early Childhood Scholarships were funded through Tobacco Settlement Dollars and Civil Fines from Child Care Centers.

In 2021, with funding from the American Rescue Plan and through a partnership with the Division of Child Care, \$7 million will be invested in increases to scholarships for the next three years.

1. Modifications are being made to three areas of the program. They include:
 - Removal of the current enrollment limit of 9 credit hours per semester.
 - Students will be able to enroll in as many hours as desired.
2. Increase the maximum award amount from \$1,800 per year to full tuition and fees at the institution, not to exceed the undergraduate tuition and fees rate at the participating public institution that charges the highest amount (UK - \$12,610 for the 2021-22 year).
3. Expanding eligible programs to include qualifying master's degree programs.

Scholarship application information can be found at <https://www.kheaa.com/website/kheaa/ecds?main=1>