

Early Childhood Teacher Scholarships for Pathway Students

Frequently Asked Questions

Who are the Scholarships for?

Scholarships are for people currently employed in a long day care centre who wish to upgrade their qualification from a Diploma in Children's Services (or equivalent) to a degree in early childhood teaching.

Scholarship recipients will be required to work for a minimum of two years as an early childhood teacher in a funded kindergarten program in a long day care centre upon completion of their studies.

Which university must I attend?

You are able to undertake your study at any university that offers a course that delivers a qualification that is approved for employment in a licensed children's service in Victoria. You should check that the course of study you intend to undertake is on the approved list of early childhood teaching qualifications at:

www.education.vic.gov.au/careers/earlychildhood/

How do I apply for a Scholarship?

Complete an application form, and return it to the address on the form. You must also submit the following:

- Two (2) referee report forms
- Employer Form

- Certified academic transcript for current or previous study claimed on your application
- Proof of offer/enrolment in an approved early childhood teaching qualification

Download application documentation at:
www.education.vic.gov.au/careers/earlychildhood/

If I am successful, what will I receive?

You will receive a scholarship of up to \$6,000 over two years to contribute towards your study costs.

You will also be eligible to receive literacy support while you are studying.

How will the successful applicants be chosen?

All applicants who meet the eligibility criteria will be considered. Applicants must:

- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia
- Be employed in a Victorian long day care centre
- Have been accepted into an approved early childhood teaching degree course
- Be able to demonstrate an interest and commitment to working in a long day care centre
- Have the support of their employer to undertake further study



Scholarships are limited and will be granted at the discretion of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.



I have not received an offer of place from the university I have applied to. Am I still able to apply for the scholarship?

If you have applied for entry into an early childhood teaching degree but have not yet received an offer of place, you may still lodge an application for a Scholarship.

You must advise the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development immediately upon receipt of an offer for an approved course of study.

Your application will not be assessed until proof of an offer has been received by the Department.

Do I re-apply for my scholarship each year?

No. If your application is successful your scholarship will continue provided you meet the scholarship criteria for participation i.e. you remain enrolled in an approved course of study, and maintain satisfactory academic progress.

I have been awarded a scholarship from another organisation. Will this affect my eligibility for this scheme?

If you are in receipt of a scholarship from another organisation your eligibility for this scheme may be affected. However, you are still encouraged to apply for an Early Childhood Teacher Scholarship for Pathways Students. Your application must include details of the funding including the type, funding body and value of the scholarship you have been awarded.

What is my employer required to do, and what are they entitled to receive?

Your employer is required to indicate their support for your application and also indicate how their service supports and engages families and communities. A form for this purpose is included with the application documentation.

If your application is successful, your employer will be entitled to apply for reimbursement of costs of up to 20 days over 2 years for you to undertake study requirements.

What happens to my scholarship if I fail my course?

You must maintain satisfactory progress throughout your course of study. If you fail to maintain satisfactory progress, the Scholarship may be terminated. The Department will then consider the circumstances and advise if all or part of the Scholarship funds will be required to be returned.

What if I don't complete the course?

If you terminate your course of study before completion you must notify the Department immediately. The Department will then consider the circumstances and advise if all or part of the Scholarship will be required to be repaid.

Am I eligible for a scholarship if I am not currently working in a long day care centre?

Priority will be given to applicants who are currently employed in a long day care centre. However, applicants who can display a commitment to working in a long day care centre or are working in another type of children's service may be considered.

Can I defer my studies?

If you defer your studies before commencing your course, your Scholarship will be terminated and no payments will be made.

If you take a leave of absence during your course the Department will consider the circumstances and advise if this will affect your scholarship.

What do I have to do if I get the Scholarship?

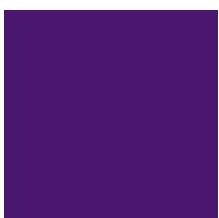
You will be expected to:

- Sign an Agreement accepting the scholarship offer, terms and conditions
- Remain enrolled in an approved early childhood teaching degree until successful completion of the course
- Provide evidence of satisfactory academic progress throughout your studies
- Within 6 months of completion of the course, obtain employment as an early childhood teacher in a funded kindergarten program in a long day care centre
- Maintain employment as an early childhood teacher in a funded kindergarten program in a Victorian long day care centre for a minimum of two years.

When will I receive my money?

You will receive two payments. The first payment will be made when you sign the Agreement.

The second payment will be made 12 months after signing the Agreement, and on providing evidence of satisfactory academic progress and re-enrolment in the course, or on providing evidence of completion of the course.



Every
child,
every
opportunity

