

## **T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® PA Afterschool & Youth Work Scholarship**

***What is an afterschool or youth development program?*** For the purpose of this initiative and pilot program, afterschool and youth development programs are also known as extra learning opportunities, school-age child care or out-of-school-time programs. These programs provide youth ages five to 18 with a variety of supervised activities that promote learning and positive development beyond the traditional school day. The programs come in many forms: academic support, service learning, organized sports, homework help, arts and music, tutoring, volunteering, community service and scores of others. These programs offer youth new opportunities to improve academic performance, develop new skills, consider career or college options, participate on teams, learn new problem-solving approaches, and interact with peers and caring adults.

*Source: Supporting Student Success – A Governor’s Guide to Extra Learning Opportunities. National Governors Association Center for Best Practices, 2005.*

***What is a youth work professional or youth worker?*** A youth work professional or youth worker is an individual who works with or on behalf of youth to facilitate their personal, social and educational development and enable them to gain a voice, influence and place in society as they make the transition from dependence to independence. Because youth work is so broad, we are working under three assumptions that help define the workforce:

- Youth work professionals are working with young people in primarily informal and voluntary settings;
- Youth work professionals are working with young people primarily between the ages of 5 and 18; and
- Youth work professionals, like social workers or nurses, can be employed by a variety of systems and settings.

From *Attracting, Developing and Retaining Youth Workers for the Next Generation*, B. Stone, P. Garza, L. Borden, Wingspread Conference Proceedings, Washington, DC: National Collaboration for Youth/National Assembly, 2004.

### ***What is the Purpose of the T.E.A.C.H. Afterschool & Youth Work Scholarship?***

The purpose of the T.E.A.C.H. Afterschool & Youth Work Scholarship is to assist afterschool and youth work professionals in earning coursework toward a credential, certificate or degree in School Age/Afterschool child care, Youth Work or appropriate related field.

### ***What does the Afterschool/Youth Work Scholarship cover?***

- 80% of tuition and 75% of books costs associated with completing 9-15 credit hours per contract.
- Reimburse sponsor 50% of weekly paid release time up to 3 hours per week at a rate of \$10.00 per hour.
- Provide \$125 travel stipend per semester.
- Provide a \$300 bonus to recipient for completing contract, payable in two installments.

### ***Who is eligible to participate?***

To be eligible for a scholarship applicants must:

- Be employed at least 15 hours per week in a DPW certified school age child care program (Keystone STAR 1 or above) or in a self regulated afterschool/youth development program\*.
- Be employed by sponsor for at least one year and maintain employment for a minimum of 9 months out of the year.
- Be eligible for college/university admission.
- Earn less than \$15.00 per hour for direct care staff and less than \$19.00 for program directors/coordinators.

\*A self-regulated program is one that is licensed, accredited or certified by a governing agency, organization or board. The program may also be actively participating in or pursuing a national, statewide, or locally-based quality improvement process or system.

Other considerations for eligibility:

- Afterschool/schoolage applicants must work at a program participating in Keystone STARS level 1 and above.
- Scholarship awards are dependent upon availability of funds and priorities of funders.
- Other eligibility criteria may apply and are subject to change without notice.

### ***What is the responsibility of the sponsoring employer?***

The sponsoring program would agree to:

- Contribute 10% of tuition costs associated with completing 9-15 credit hours per contract.
- Provide employee with paid release time (up to 3 hours per week) each week while classes are in session.
- Provide a 2% raise or \$300 bonus to recipient for completing contract, payable in two installments

### ***What is the responsibility of the scholarship recipient?***

The scholarship recipient would agree to:

- Successfully complete 9-15 credit hours toward a credential, certificate or degree during the contract year.
- Maintain the required GPA set forth by the college/university each semester.
- Remain employed with sponsoring child care program for a minimum of 15 hours per week and 9 months out of each year.
- Contribute 10% of tuition and 25% of book costs associated with completing 9-15 credit hours per contract.
- Remain employed with the sponsoring program for at least one year per completed contract.

<b>Afterschool &amp; Youth Work Scholarship Model</b>			
	<b>T.E.A.C.H.</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Center</b>
<b>Tuition</b>	80%	10%	10%
<b>Books</b>	75%	25%	
<b>Travel</b>	\$125 per semester		
<b>Release Time*</b>	50%		50%
<b>Compensation</b>	\$300 Bonus		\$300 Bonus or 2% Raise
<b>Commitment</b>		1 year to the employer	
*Release time eligibility dependent upon number of hours the recipient works:			
<20 hours per week - no release time			
21-25 hours per week - 1 hour of paid release time/week			
26-30 hours per week - 2 hours of paid release time/week			
31+ hours per week - 3 hours of paid release time/week			