### SCHOLARSHIPS AT A GLANCE 2024

COLLEGE CREDIT SEEKING MODELS



MISSOURI-

A Program of Child Care Aware® of Missouri



The support with tuition and the cost of books allowed me to focus more on my studies rather than expenses.

Tammy's story is a powerful example of how access to education can transform a career and a life. Through the support of nine TEACH Early Childhood® Missouri contracts, she was able to complete her CDA credential, earn her Associate's degree, and ultimately achieve her Bachelor's degree. As the first in her family to attend and graduate from college, Tammy credits the scholarship for making her educational journey financially possible. With each credential, new doors opened culminating in a promotion to Director of Programs in 2023 at the same early childhood center where she began as an assistant teacher in 2008. Tammy's growth is not only a personal milestone but a testament to what is possible when early childhood educators are supported in their professional development.





240,000

**Total** College Credits **Earned** 

In 2024

**Retention Rate for Degree Models** 





15%

**Degree Model Average Wage** increase

In 2024 15 scholars earned their Master's Certificate through **TEACH Missouri** 

The TEACH Early Childhood® Missouri Scholarship:

53%

Recipients that are first generation in their family to go to college

- Supports the early childhood education workforce across Missouri to increase quality in early learning programs through education, compensation and retention of child care educators and home visitors
  - An opportunity to earn national credentials and college credit-based education.
  - A cost-sharing model between scholarship recipients, sponso TEACH Missouri.
  - Scholarships serve child care educators, directors, assistant directors, owners, family child care businesses.

### SCHOLARSHIP AT A GLANCE 2024

### **CDA Scholarship Models**

# Child Development Associate Scholarships

- Nationally recognized credential and a first formal step in early childhood education
- The process of applying education to show basic competency and create change in early childhood practice
- Takes a candidate eight to 18 months to earn their CDA credential



## **CDA Settings**

- Infant Toddler
- Preschool
- Family Child Care
- Home Visitor

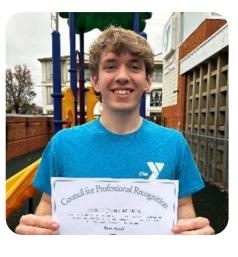
Numbers in 2024

552 Clock-Hour Participants

30 College Credit Hour Participants

74 Missouri Counties Served

59% Serving Child Care Deserts in Missouri Counties



"I learned a lot about children's development which helped me to understand what activities to incorporate into my lesson plans and how to help the children grow and succeed while in my classroom."

-Samuel Becker

Sam's journey through the CDA Scholarship has been one of growth, confidence, and connection. With each step, he's gained a deeper understanding of childhood developmental milestones and insight that has strengthened both his classroom practice and his communication with families. Along the way, Sam discovered a stronger sense of professionalism, now feeling more confident when talking with parents and collaborating with colleagues.

Sam never felt alone in the process. His Scholarship Counselor provided ongoing encouragement and support, helping him stay focused and motivated. Thanks to the CDA Scholarship, Sam is now better equipped to provide the high-quality care every child deserves.

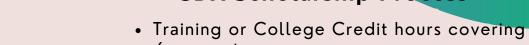
### **Home Visitor CDA Model**

- Launched in April 2024
- Brings a national CDA credential to home visiting
- Focused knowledge to apply to working with families
- Professional entry point for those without an early childhood background



24 New Participants

#### **CDA Scholarship Process**



- 6 competency areas
- The CDA process consists of 120 hours of education
  480 hours of work experience
- Creating a professional portfolio and an exam
  - An onsite observation and an interview by a Professional Development Specialist from the Council for Professional Recognition.



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