



March 2008

Dear Early Childhood Educator,

We are very excited to inform you about scholarships now being offered by the Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas, Inc. and Coordinated Child Care of Pinellas, Inc. to assist you with your educational goals.

The Early Learning Coalition offers the STEP UP Scholarship program. A STEP UP scholarship provides assistance to directors, child care center teachers and family child care home providers who are renewing their CDA or CDA/E (now the FCCPC), obtaining or renewing their director credential, or beginning the A.S. degree in Early Childhood Education. You will find additional information about the STEP UP scholarship included in this packet.

Coordinated Child Care is continuing with the Child Care Quality Improvement Initiative, funded by JWB, to assist family child care providers and teachers working in child care centers with pursuing an A.S. Degree in Early Childhood Education. Attached you will find a guide with Questions & Answers about this scholarship.

Please complete the attached application and answer **all** questions accurately and completely. Applications are due **no later than April 1, 2008 at 5:00 PM.** Applications received after this date will not be considered. All applications will be reviewed by a committee. Using eligibility guidelines, the committee will match applicants to the funder that best meets their immediate educational goals.

All applications should be hand delivered to or sent by U.S. Postal Mail to:

Coordinated Child Care of Pinellas, Inc.
c/o Nancy Polinsky
10601 Belcher Road South
Largo, FL 33777
Faxed applications will not be accepted.



Unified Scholarship Application

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Applicant Name: _____

Please state why you are applying for this scholarship in one paragraph in 5 to 7 sentences. (This section must be completed.)

I am applying for this scholarship because:

I understand that my educational goals will be matched to an appropriate funding source. My application does not guarantee acceptance due to limited funding. I understand that information contained on this application will be shared with all collaborating funders and that funders reserve the right to change their funding priorities.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

If you are employed by a child care center or large family child care home you must have your supervisor complete and sign this section in support of your application.

Has this employee successfully completed their probationary period?

YES NO

Supervisor Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Completed applications must be returned to:

**Coordinated Child Care of Pinellas, Inc.
c/o Nancy Polinsky
10601 Belcher Road South
Largo, FL 33777**

Faxed applications will NOT be accepted.

No Later than 5:00 PM April 1, 2008

Is your current work site contracted with Coordinated Child Care of Pinellas, Inc. YES NO

How many children enrolled at your work site are receiving CCC scholarship funding? _____

Is your work site participating in the Pinellas 5-Star Quality Improvement Program? YES NO

If yes, what was the overall score on the last Environment Rating Scale assessment? _____

Scholarship Committee Use Only

Received: _____ Approved: _____ Denied: _____

Denial Reason: _____

STEP UP Scholarships -- Questions & Answers

The Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas County STEP UP Scholarship offers scholarships for teachers employed in child care facilities or family child care homes located in Pinellas County who are pursuing their A.S. Degree in Early Childhood Education at St. Petersburg College. Scholarships are also provided for classes which help teachers meet requirements for renewing their CDAE or Director Credential.

1. *What does the scholarship pay for?*

- The scholarship will pay for registration fees, lab fees and tuition for any courses needed for obtaining an A.S. Degree in Early Childhood Education or for courses needed for the either the CDAE or Director Credential renewal.

2. *What does the student pay for?*

- The scholarship recipient is responsible for payment of books and any other fees (i.e., parking).
- The scholarship will not cover the additional fees for non-residents of Florida.

3. *Who is eligible?*

- Applicants must be actively employed at a licensed child care facility or Family Child Care home in Pinellas County, must have a high school diploma and must be a resident of Florida for at least 12 months.

4. *How do I apply?*

- Complete the enclosed Scholarship Application and submit by the deadline.

5. *How will I be notified if I am accepted?*

- Recipients will be notified by phone if you have been accepted. Paperwork will then be mailed which must be completed and returned no later than April 20, 2008. Classes are scheduled to being the week of on May 12, 2008.

6. *How do I know what courses to choose?*

- Upon notification of receiving the scholarship, you will be asked to select courses offered for the Summer 2008 Session. All classes are blended, which include classroom meetings and online assignments. The following courses will be available:

- EEC 2312 Creative Activities – Art/Music/Language (Monday)
- EEC 1223 Observation and Assessment (Tuesday)
- EEC 2300 Cognitive Activities - Math/Science (Tuesday)
- EEC 1603 Early Childhood Development (Wednesday)
- EEC 1600 Guiding Young Children (Wednesday)
- EEC 1603 Early Childhood Development (Thursday)

** This class is offered on the Tarpon Springs Campus**

7. *Who do I contact with questions?*

- For STEP UP Scholarship questions, contact Barbara Scarsbrook at 727-548-1439 ext. 30 or by e-mail at bscarsbrook@elcpinellas.org.

JWB Scholarships for A.S. Degree in Early Childhood Education--Questions & Answers

Through funding received from the Juvenile Welfare Board, Coordinated Child Care of Pinellas, Inc. (CCC) is offering scholarships to teachers currently working in child care centers or family child care providers who are seriously interested in pursuing an A.S. Degree in Early Childhood Education?

1. What does the scholarship pay for?

- The scholarship will pay tuition for all courses required to attain an A.S. Degree in Early Childhood Education.
- A \$100.00 text book stipend will be given each semester. Students are responsible for purchasing their books and paying the difference if books total more than \$100.00.
- Upon successful completion of each course (grade of C or better) students will receive an incentive stipend (amount to be determined).
- Upon graduation and attainment of an A.S. Degree/Diploma students will continue to receive quarterly stipends in decreasing amounts for up to two years as long as they remain employed with the same employer.

2. What does the student pay for?

If applicable, the \$35.00 application fee. There is no application fee if you have ever attended St. Petersburg College.

3. Who is eligible?

Preferences will be given to teachers working in child care centers and family child care providers who are participating in the Pinellas 5-Star Quality Improvement System.

Potential recipients must be employed in a child care center or family child care home at least 30 hours per week.

4. If I am pursuing an A.S. Degree on my own can I still apply?

Yes, anyone who is pursuing an A.S. Degree on their own is encouraged to apply.

5. How do I apply? How will I be notified if I am accepted?

Complete the application and submit by the deadline. You will be notified by phone if you have been accepted. You will be required to attend a mandatory orientation where you will receive additional information and instructions.

6. Does the scholarship require anything from the student's employer?

Yes, employers are required to make reasonable accommodations to the student's schedule as needed. For example, early release on class days, release for study time etc.

The employer is required to commit to granting a salary increase commensurate with an A.S. Degree by the time the stipends are phased out.

7. How do I know if I am a good candidate for this scholarship?

If you agree with the following statements, you are probably a good candidate.

- I am serious about pursuing an A.S. Degree in Early Childhood Education.
- I feel confident that I can manage the additional time needed for class and study along with work and family responsibilities.
- When I start something I am prone to see it to completion.
- I plan on staying in the early childhood field long term.
- I manage stress well.
- I have the support of my family and employer.
- I am in good health.
- I am happy with my current work situation and plan to stay long term.

8. Who can I contact with questions about the JWB-A.S. Scholarship?

JWB reserves the right to change these funding priorities.

You can contact [Nancy Polinsky](mailto:npolinsky@childcarepinellas.org) by phone at 727-547-4205 or by email at npolinsky@childcarepinellas.org.

If you are currently a student at SPCollege or have taken a course in the past, please complete this form and submit it with your application.

Name _____

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
CHDEV-AS**

Complete the following by checking all courses completed as of 5/1/08. Attach a copy of your SPC transcript. Submit both with the application.

General Education Courses			
ENC 1101	Composition I	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
ENC 1102	Composition II	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPC 1600	Introduction to Speech Communication	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
SPC 1600 H	Or SPC 1600H, SPC 1016, SPC 1060 OR SPC 1060H		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Mathematics with MAC, MAP, MAS, MGF, MTG or STA prefix	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
POS 2041	American National Government or Honors	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
PHI 1600	Studies in Applied Ethics	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Or PHI 1602h, PHI 1631, PHI 2635 OR PHI 2649 (Circle Course/s taken)		
	Computer/Information Literacy Competency Requirement		<input type="checkbox"/>

Support Courses (12 Credits) – a grade of “C” or higher is required			
	Any approved Natural Science Course Course # _____	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEP 2102	Child Development	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
PSY 1012	General Psychology	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Or PSY 1012 H		<input type="checkbox"/>
SYG 2000	Introductory Sociology	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
	OR SYG 2430 Marriage and Family		<input type="checkbox"/>

Major Course (30 Credits) – a grade of “C” or higher is required			
EEC 1308	Early Childhood Planning and Management	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
EEC 1223	Observation and Assessment in Early Childhood	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
EEC 1600	Guiding Young Children	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
EEC 1603	Early Childhood Development	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
EEC 2271	Introduction to working with Young Children with Special Needs	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
EEC 2300	Developing Cognitive Activities for Young Children	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
EEC 2312	Developing Creative Activities for Young Children	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
EEC 2907	Early Childhood Education Teacher Training	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Electives: (Circle course/s taken)		
(Circle classes you have already taken)	LAE 2000 OR ANY EDG/EEC COURSE NOT ALREADY TAKEN: EDG 2701, EEC 2002, EEC 2272, EEC 2523, EEC 2943 (3 CREDITS EACH) EDG 1319, EEC 2500, EEC 2521 (1 CREDIT EACH)	6	

TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS	63 HOURS
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