

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® DELAWARE

FY13 Results

Before first grade, a child may spend over 10,000 hours in child care. Research tells us that children enrolled in a good early care and education program in the first five years of life are most likely to be in a highly skilled job or in college at age 21. Ensuring quality early care and education for children today ensures a viable workforce for the future and a strong American economy in the long run.

The quality of early care and education a child receives is directly linked to teacher education and compensation. But in Delaware, few early educators have higher education degrees and many earn less than \$10 an hour. The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project awards educational scholarships to early education professionals in an effort to address the key issues of under-education, poor compensation and high turnover within the early education workforce. All T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarships link increasing educational levels with increased compensation and retention. Scholarship recipients and their sponsoring early care and education programs share in the cost.

In Delaware, T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® is administered by the Delaware Association for the Education of Young Children. In FY13, T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® DELAWARE helped over 253 early education professionals in the state increase their education.

Education

- Recipients on associate degree scholarships completed an average of 12.0 credits per contract.
- Recipients on bachelor degree scholarships completed an average of 21.0 credit hours.
- T.E.A.C.H. recipients in Delaware completed over 1,658 credit hours last year.
- The average grade point average for a T.E.A.C.H. recipient working on her associate degree was 3.12; the average GPA for a T.E.A.C.H. recipient working on her bachelor's degree was 3.00.

Compensation

- The average hourly wage of a teacher on a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship was \$10.92.
- The average increase in earnings for a T.E.A.C.H. recipient on an associate degree scholarship was 15.0%.
- The average increase in earnings for a T.E.A.C.H. recipient on a bachelor's degree scholarship was 4.0%.

Retention

- For associate degree scholarship recipients the average turnover rate was 4.0%.
- For bachelor degree scholarship recipients the average turnover rate was 5.0%.

Demographics

- 37.9% of recipients worked with 3-5 year old children.
- 41.9% of recipients worked with children under 2.
- 54.2% of recipients were women of color.
- T.E.A.C.H. recipients attended the 1 community college or one of the 4 different universities offering early childhood degree programs in Delaware.

Personal Impact

- In a survey of T.E.A.C.H. recipients, 100% indicated they would recommend T.E.A.C.H. to their peers; and 95% of their employers would recommend T.E.A.C.H.

This year alone

3,449

of Delaware's children benefitted from consistent care provided by a better educated teacher.

T.E.A.C.H. recipients show dramatic dedication to remaining in their professions with turnover rates that are far less than national turnover rates of 30-40%.

The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project continues to be heralded by experts in the field as a national leader in creating solutions for early childhood education workforce challenges. National outcomes can be found in the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® and Child Care WAGES® 2012-2013 Annual Program Report: www.childcareservices.org/_downloads/TEACH_AnnualReport_2013.pdf



FY13 Voices from the Field

"I would just like to say that the T.E.A.C.H. program has saved my career by investing in my education. I took a few early education classes here and there over a 10 year period until the college informed me that my credits would begin to expire. I wanted to just quit at that point but my supervisors and colleagues at the Y would not allow that. We inquired about the T.E.A.C.H. program and now I stand before you today, four months away from graduating with a Bachelor's degree. Without the support of this program I would have dropped out of college and would not have the opportunity to share this success story... but more importantly I will be able to continue to serve and provide quality programs for the children in our community."

~Center Teacher, New Castle County

"The T.E.A.C.H. scholarship has allowed me to pursue my dream! But the scholarship is not only beneficial to the T.E.A.C.H. recipient; it benefits the children you work with!"

~Center Teacher, Kent County

"Everything I am learning in class I have been able to use in my classroom."

~Center Teacher, New Castle County

"The T.E.A.C.H. program has been a blessing in disguise. Without it I would not be able to afford school and still work full-time."

~Center Teacher, New Castle County

"Teachers are paid too little for what they do! This scholarship absolutely helps keep qualified teachers in our childcare programs."

~Center Teacher, Sussex County

"We have been able to increase the education level of our staff. Some scholars have chosen to continue on for their B.S. degrees."

~Center Director, New Castle County

"My teachers look forward to advancing their academic careers. The knowledge they are gaining is reflected in our childcare program. Administratively, it is a great tool for retention!"

~Owner, New Castle County

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