



## T.E.A.C.H. Monthly News & Updates, October 2016

### Form submissions and approval process

Just a reminder, in order for T.E.A.C.H. to process your tuition and travel claims we need to have your student bill showing the tuition amount including any other funding such as PELL grants (which you send to us in order to get the charge approval) and your Form B. Once you purchase your books for the semester, please submit your Form B, including a copy of your book receipts. If you do not need books for the semester, we still need the Form B and student bill. If you have purchased some books and will need to purchase more later (for 2nd block) please submit a Form B for each block, do not wait until after 2nd block to submit for books purchased 1st block. We WILL NOT be able to approve any tuition, travel or book claims without all required paperwork: Student Bill, Form B, and copies of receipts (if applicable). Please let Lynn know if you need a blank form.



### Recipient Spotlight

Madden Elentrio is a teacher at Brilliant Little Minds Learning Academy (BLM), a licensed child care center in Middletown, Delaware. This facility is a Star 5 program with Delaware Stars. It has a capacity of 165 children and cares for all age groups. Since 2011, BLM been allowed 16 staff members to participate in the T.E.A.C.H.scholarship program. Currently three staff members are pursuing their Associate degrees in early childhood education (ECE) and three more are working on their ECE Bachelor degrees. Madden is the first staff member who participated in the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship program at this Center to successfully complete her Associate degree from Delaware Technical and Community College in Early Childhood Education (Birth to 2nd Grade). She started her academic journey in the Fall of 2013 and graduated this past Summer 2016. Without missing a beat, Madden enrolled in Wilmington University's Bachelor Degree program - Education Studies with a concentration in Early Childhood Education and is continuing her academic journey



taking courses for the Fall 2016 semester. Madden is setting a great example for her fellow staff members at BLM and certainly is showing them that obtaining a degree while working is possible. She is also setting the stage for a great career in ECE. The children in her care and BLM are lucky to have Madden on staff. BLM's willingness to support staff members in their academic journey will definitely lead to offering an excellent early learning environment for children.

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### Just a reminder:

Each scholarship recipient has signed a personal responsibilities agreement. This scholarship represents an amazing opportunity - a debt free college education! This benefit comes to you with various responsibilities.

As a T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Delaware Scholarship Recipient, you are expected to:

- attend class, study, work hard and be a responsible student. This is a great opportunity that should be taken seriously.
- regularly communicate with the T.E.A.C.H. Coordinator or Counselor. They are available to help guide you through the process of attending college as well as balancing your college, work, and family responsibilities. They are just a phone call or email away and can answer many questions.
- submit reimbursement forms in a timely manner. Semester schedules/bills must be submitted in time for T.E.A.C.H. to forward to the appropriate school. Form B's must be submitted for reimbursement of tuition, books, and travel claims. If your scholarship model includes paid release time, you will need to sign the Form C's, be sure your director (if applicable) signs the Form C and helps you get it submitted for reimbursement for release time.
- contact T.E.A.C.H. immediately regarding any changes to your employment or college status, or if you are having difficulty in meeting your course/college requirements or scholarship contract.
- submit your grades within 30 days of the close of the semester. Keeping your scholarship record up-to-date is critical to ensuring that you can continue your education without unnecessary delays.
- pay your bills from T.E.A.C.H. and/or your college by the due date. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are meeting all of your obligations.

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### In your words....

What has the scholarship meant to you personally and professionally?

"Everything! Wouldn't have been able to attend school without support." ~ Center Administrator, Newark, DE

"Its meant so much to me. I feel very grateful to be able to work towards my degree. If it wasn't for TEACH, I wouldn't be able to afford school." ~ Assistant Teacher, Newark, DE

TEACH is asking for release forms in order to use your quotes, if you have not sent yours in yet, please do so asap!





The Center for American Progress published state specific fact sheets pertaining to Early Learning. Did you know that according to the report,

Delaware has 64,588 children under age 6, 71% of whom have all available parents in the workforce.

We all know that "high-quality child care and preschool programs help narrow school readiness gaps, which is particularly important for children of color and those living in low-income families."

[To read the full story, click here - Early Learning in Delaware](#)

## October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, an annual campaign to raise awareness of breast cancer risks, the value of screening and early detection, and treatment options available to women and men who are diagnosed with one of the many forms of breast cancer. More than 249,000 people in the United States are diagnosed with invasive breast cancer every year, and nearly 41,000 die from the disease.

Over the years, a loop of pink ribbon has come to symbolize breast cancer awareness, and today the image of a pink ribbon can be found emblazoned on thousands of products, from apparel to dishware to office supplies. But there's more to awareness than just wearing pink. [Click here for more!](#)

Delaware offers assistance for health screenings such as mammograms. To find out more visit - [Screening for Life](#)



[Get the Breast Health Guide here - FREE!!](#)



## Possible PELL Grant changes

A bipartisan bill that would exclude all federal Pell Grant funds from taxable income was introduced this summer. Under current law, when students spend their Pell Grants on indirect costs to education—such as transportation, food, or housing—these funds are counted as taxable income, while Pell funds used for direct costs like tuition, fees, and books are not. CLASP supports eliminating the discrepancy between direct and indirect costs to ensure low-income students fully

benefit from Pell Grants without affecting their eligibility for other needed supports such as refundable tax credits, housing assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and Medicaid.

[Read the full story here](#)

## Election Day is coming

Election Day is November 8, 2016.

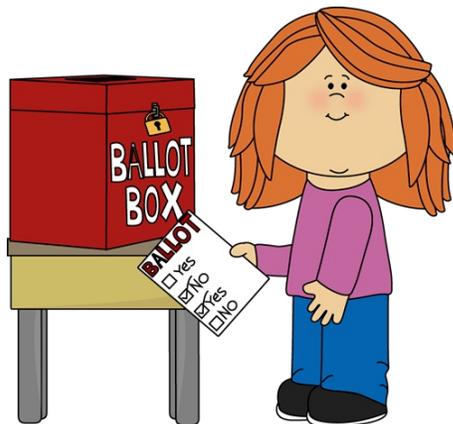
Every vote will count in this election, particularly when it comes to selecting a candidate that cares about issues that affect the field of early care and education. Below are some ideas that can be used in your child care facility to help with the upcoming election.

Help parents at your center to get registered to vote. You can do this by setting up a voter registration station at your center, or by sending voter registration information home with your students.

Post information around the center about voter registration, early voting, and absentee voting.

Host Get Out the Vote activities at your center. For resources such as Get Out the Vote Postcards, Toolkits, Tip Sheets and more, go to the [Nonprofit VOTE website](#).

Consider staying open later on Election Day so that parents can go to the polls to vote.



Teach the kids about the voting process, and then let kids vote at the center. PBS has posted a video on PBS kids showing kids about the voting process. [Watch it here](#). You can find other resources to help children to understand the election process at PBS Parents. [Click here to go to the web page](#).

## Wilmington



## Wilmington Resource Center

City of Wilmington - WECEC Professional Development Resource Center

- \*FULFILLING COMMUNITY NEEDS WITH...
- \*TECE 1 & 2 SCHOLARSHIP
- \*OPPORTUNITIES
- \*PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- \*CAREER ADVISEMENT
- \*TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
- \*MENTORING
- \*RESOURCES
- \*TEACHING TOOLS & TOYS
- \*REFERRALS
- \*EARLY PROFESSIONAL LITERATURE
- \*HOME CHILDCARE & CENTER SUPPORT

\*ACCESS TO QUALITY TRAINING & A WHOLE LOT MORE...

Fall-Winter Operational Hours  
Monday: Appointment Opening only  
Tuesday: 1:00 PM-7:00 PM  
Wednesday: 10:00 AM-6:00 PM  
Thursday: 1:00 PM-7:00 PM  
Saturday: 8:00AM-1:00 PM, 1st & 3rd Saturday

New location:  
Warner Elementary School  
801 West 18th Street  
Wilmington DE 19802

[Use Pre-K entrance-around back of school]

Contact: Victoria Mells-Clymer at 302-304-5017 Email: [v\\_clymer@aol.com](mailto:v_clymer@aol.com)

## Sponsor Corner

A child care program administrator's decision to sponsor a teacher on a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship is one of the most important steps an employer can take towards improving staff retention and maintaining a high quality early care and

education environment for young children.

A T.E.A.C.H. scholarship recipient tends to flourish and achieve successful outcomes in her/his coursework when her/his sponsor:

- \*Helps the teacher develop an individualized professional development plan.
- \*Spends some time helping the teacher go through the degree program plan and requirements.
- \*Recognizes that paid release time is vital to the teacher's personal and academic success.



[Click here to learn more about how Employers can support T.E.A.C.H. recipients in their college experience](#)

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STAY CONNECTED:

