



T.E.A.C.H. Monthly News & Updates, June 2017

Forms due 6/30!

Grades and Form Cs are due no later than June 30th. Forms received after June 30th may not be processed.

There are also a few recipients that have not submitted Form B for Spring semester - those recipients will not receive their travel stipend and may have received an invoice. If you are one of these recipients, please call the office so that we get the Forms that we need.



We have new Form submission deadlines:

Spring semester forms must be in no later than **June 30**

Summer semester forms must be in no later than **September 30**

Fall semester forms must be in no later than **January 30**

Forms received after these deadlines may not be processed. Blank Form Bs and Form Cs can be found on our website under resources - www.daeyc.org/resources

Recipient Spotlight

By Ashley Connell

Education is treasured and valued in my family. It took a lot of time, dedication, decisions and if I'm honest all of my free time. In 2007, I graduated from Delaware Technical and Community College. It took me four years but I did it! A lot of times I look back and I don't even think I can remember how I did it. I worked three jobs and was a full-time student, I was insane. Once I got into the teaching field, I really felt that this was where I needed to be. Children are so filled with love and compassion, they see the purity in the world, and allow me to get a glimpse of a better world through their eyes.

I knew I wanted to complete my degree. However, my circumstances made me feel as if I would never have the opportunity to meet my goal. The one thing that makes this program different than any other one I've learned about is how much they care. The compassion and energy that the individuals at T.E.A.C.H. put into this phenomenal program is astounding. I would always get an email or phone call at the end of each semester just checking in



to see how I was doing and if there's anything that they could do to help make my process of getting my education easier. They were there to congratulate me and celebrate my accomplishments; but at the same time they were there at the darkest moments of my life as well. In the middle of my first contract with T.E.A.C.H., my brother died. I was devastated and it was very traumatic for my family and I. I was treated like a member of the T.E.A.C.H. family and they stated I could take my time I could do what I needed to do. They said whatever I choose to do, it was my decision. My last promise to my brother was that I would finish and get a bachelors degree in education. Guess what? I did it!

Just knowing that I had so many individuals cheering me on, wanting me to succeed but also wanting there to be highly qualified educators in the early childhood program, made me push through. I have overcome so many challenges. The death of my brother, being hit by a drunk driver while I was a pedestrian, and every day life that can be problematic at times. As educators we want our students to succeed and become the best that they can possibly be. I thought that I was doing an injustice to my children not having a higher level of education. I would dream of becoming a teacher but reality would hit with the minimal income that I made, even working multiple jobs. However, my time vested into the martial arts made me a very determined person with a lot of perseverance.

When Deanna came to me and told me about the T.E.A.C.H. program I thought that it was a dream come true. I had never heard of a program that would assist you with getting your education and then to reward you when you did well. This is what sets this program apart from others! The compassion and the exuberance of the individuals that work at the program are second to none. After completing the program, all I can say is that I am a proud graduate and T.E.A.C.H. Scholar! It is a phenomenal program that allows individuals that would not have the financial ability to earn their degree.



Upcoming policy changes

As of Fall Semester 2017 the following policy changes will be in effect:

- Release time reimbursement rate will be \$8.25/hr (up from \$7.50)
- TEACH will pay for failed and withdrawn classes the first time - charge approvals will not be sent for repeat classes and the recipient will have to pay the college/university directly.
- In order to be eligible for your bonus at the end of your contract you will need to complete at least 9 credits successful in the contract year. This is a change from all credits taken must be passed successfully.
- Individual Professional Development plans were rolled out this Spring, we will continue to make this a requirement of the new applicants and will work to begin getting these completed with existing recipients. IPDPs will be updated annually.
- Direct Deposit will be required as of Fall semester. Forms can be found on [our website](#) and will be included with contract addendums.
- FAFSA will be required for all applicants no later than their 2nd contract. By applying for FAFSA, you may be eligible for additional scholarships and grants, such as the PELL grant. At no time do we encourage recipients to take out student loans, however, grants can reduce the amount of tuition billed to TEACH and in turn charged to you. This not only helps you owe less, but allows us to offer more scholarships! Should you need assistance with the FAFSA process, contact \$tandByMe at your college/university or [online](#).

Updated recipient and sponsor manuals will be available online - we will no longer send out hard copies!

Please be on the lookout for contract addendums to be mailed out in the next few weeks! These will need to be returned once signed asap in order to continue with Fall scholarships.

In your words....

What has the scholarship meant to you personally and professionally?

"This scholarship has meant a great deal to me. I feel as though this program was organized for people just like me. This scholarship has given me the opportunity to grow as a child care professional. This has benefited not only me but also my center and the children I work with. I feel very blessed that I'm able to receive this scholarship.." ~ Assistant Teacher, Kent Co, DE

"It has been so helpful to get through school. I was never planning on getting a college degree. it is very important to me professionally and personally.." ~ Teacher, New Castle Co, DE



Hygiene updates from Caring For Our Children

Encouraging and teaching children good hand hygiene practices must be done in a safe manner. A "how to" poster that is developmentally appropriate should be placed wherever children wash their hands. Education of the staff and children regarding hand hygiene and other cleaning procedures can reduce the occurrence of illness in the group of children in care. Staff training and monitoring of hand hygiene has been shown to reduce transmission of organisms that cause disease. Periodic training and monitoring is needed to result in sustainable changes in practice.

[To read all updates, click here](#)

TEACH Staffing update:

I wanted to take a moment to inform you that Ms. Lynn Jezyk, the T.E.A.C.H. Counselor, has moved on to pursue other opportunities and is no longer employed with deaeyc. We would like to wish her luck in her future endeavors.

We have had a great response to the job posting and are conducting interviews now. We hope to have the new counselor on board in July!

In the meantime, all forms, questions, and concerns should be directed to Michelle, see contact information below.



Potential Wait list

T.E.A.C.H. has received numerous applications over this past month that are currently being placed on hold. This administrative hold is based on the current state budget and contract renewals. We will inform these applicants in

July if they have been accepted or are going to be placed on a wait list. We are thrilled to

see so much interest in educational advancement and our hope is to be able to accommodate the new applicants with an acceptance letter!

Sponsor Corner

We are excited to announce that as of Fall 2017 the Release Time reimbursement rate will be \$8.25/hr. We know that you often pay the substitutes more than this, but we hope that this increase will be helpful in giving recipients up to the maximum 48 reimbursable hours each semester.



Release time is such an important part of the scholarship model as it recognizes that these students are often working full time, have family commitments outside of work and are still willing and determined to get an education in what little spare time they have. This is quite the balancing act! Any time that you can give the student to study or attend class (that does not take away from their regular pay and does not take time away from their family) is greatly appreciated!

Did you know that based on our 2016 data: 21% of our scholars are single parents, the average age of our scholars is 37, and that 47% of our scholarship recipients are first generation college students? These students often have little to no support at home and some even face adverse reactions to their attempt to get a college education. The support that they receive from you (by making release time a priority, asking about classes, and offering assistance with tutoring or proof reading or allowing students to do projects that involve their classrooms or information from you or the families you serve) may be the only support that they get and could make the difference in their success!

Do you share with families which staff are working on their degrees? This could be a great opportunity to have the families become supports as well! Maybe do a back to school display showcasing all of the staff who are also going back to school!

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Visit our website here!

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