



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

Advocacy Day was a great success!

Advocacy Day was May 10th and there was a great turnout for all planned events. Nearly 100 high school students attended an Advocacy training and Career Panel. The Delaware Readiness Teams and Delaware Early Care Council also met that morning in Dover. A rally was held in the early afternoon with speakers from the business community, T.E.A.C.H., WAGE\$, and a NAEYC accredited program. We also heard from high school students! I think it is safe to say that everyone's favorite part of the day was hearing pre-k students from Brilliant Little Minds (a T.E.A.C.H. Sponsoring program) perform "The Delaware Song" to start the rally. The children also led the House of Representatives in the Pledge of Allegiance. This was followed by the proclamation of "May 10, 2017, as Early Childhood Advocacy Day" by Representative Quinn Johnson. If you were unable to attend, check out [deayec's Facebook page](#) for videos and photos from the day. Items will also be on our website.



A special thank you to Tuhfah Ismaa'eel who spoke as a T.E.A.C.H. recipient! We would love to have you speak next year, please let us know if you would be interested in speaking about T.E.A.C.H. at Advocacy Day in 2108!

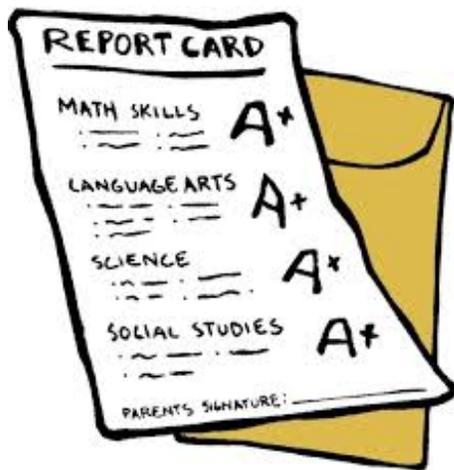
Recipient Spotlight

By Stephanie Daniels

I wanted to take this time to thank you and the T.E.A.C.H. program for giving me the opportunity to go back to college and obtain my degree and graduate debt free! I am married, a mother of two, work full time, serve at my church, and I was able to maintain high honors each semester. I am graduating Summa Cum Laude due to my cumulative GPA of 3.91. I missed a 4.0 by receiving only one "B"!! That's ok!! Anyways, I am so very grateful for this program and I have been sharing it with everyone I know. I cannot thank you all enough for offering this to working future educators. I have been in the field for over 18yrs and I

have seen so much turnover. However, it is programs like T.E.A.C.H. that help create opportunities for those interested in teaching young children to receive higher education. I feel completely blessed to have been a T.E.A.C.H. scholar for these past three years!

Again, thanks to everyone involved with TEACH.



Just a reminder:

Grades are due!

Form Cs are also due and must be submitted by June 30th (as per T.E.A.C.H. policy, forms must be submitted no more than 30 days from the end of the semester). Forms received after June 30th may not be processed.

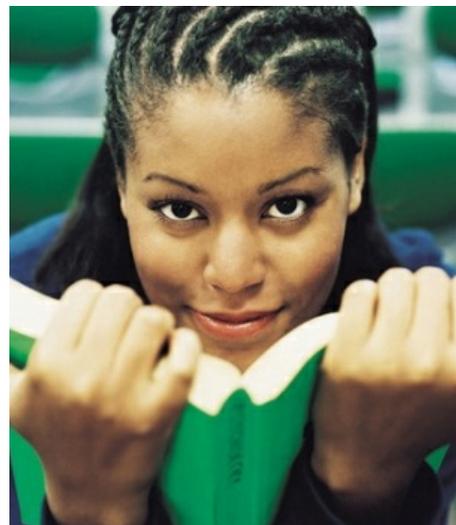
In your words....

What has the scholarship meant to you personally and professionally?

"Personally, I will be graduating debt free. Professionally I have gained extensive knowledge through all of my classes that I apply to the children and the families that I serve." ~ FCC provider, New Castle County

"It means an opportunity to reach my professional goals." ~ Owner/Director, City of Wilmington

"It has helped me to go back to school financially, I'm learning to make a better difference in young peoples' lives by becoming a stronger teacher." Assistant Teacher, Kent County





We have been busy here at the office updating our policies, manuals and contracts! We are anticipating that by mid-June we will share the new policies and manuals with all recipients and sponsors. The changes will be effective Fall 2017. These changes include:

- Payment of failed, withdrawn, and pre-requisite classes (1st time only)
- Direct deposit (see next article!)
- FAFSA requirements; and
- Updated FCC income form

Updated manuals will be available on the [deaeyc](#) website under T.E.A.C.H. resources. We will no longer be mailing hard copies to sponsors or recipients.

Once we have final approval on these documents, we will be sending out addendums for anyone who has a contract expiring December 2017 or later. All new contracts for Fall 2017 that are created after June 15th should have the new policies in place. Contracts and addendums will need to be signed by all parties - TEACH, Recipient and sponsor. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Direct Deposit



Woohoo! T.E.A.C.H. now has direct deposit available! Direct deposit will be a requirement as of Fall 2017, however, if you would like to sign up now, you can complete the [T.E.A.C.H. Direct Deposit Form](#). By moving to direct deposit, you will receive your funds faster and T.E.A.C.H. will save, time, paper and postage - a win all around!

In order to use direct deposit you must:

- Complete and submit the direct deposit form
- Submit either a voided check or bank letter as indicated on the form; and
- Have an account in your name. It can be a joint

account, but your name must be on the account. This is due to tax purposes.

We are working on a process to cross reference with WAGE\$ so that all you would need is the form, the additional documentation, and have T.E.A.C.H. direct deposit as well.

Sponsors will also be required to use direct deposit. If any sponsor has a concern, please contact Michelle.

Sponsor Corner

Thank you to those programs who have completed the 2016 Sponsor Evaluation. We have just over 50% participation, which is ok, but we would love to see much closer to 100%! It's not too late, you can still voice your opinions (we we want to hear!) about TEACH by completing the evaluation [online here](#).



We want you to know that we are listening! Here are some things that we are looking into in order to improve the program:

- Increase in reimbursement rate for release time to minimum wage
- List of suggested policies that programs should have along with an updated manual for sponsors
- Improved turnover tracking
- Observation hours options and potential additional scholarships for additional release time

for methods courses

- Ongoing discussions with higher eds about course offerings being as relate-able to ECE as possible
- Funding for a T.E.A.C.H. celebration (you must have read out minds!); and
- Book purchasing options.

62% of respondents felt the raise or bonus given to recipients is easy to do.

65% felt that release time is somewhat difficult to do.

54% have not liked us on Facebook - what are you waiting for, check us out [like us on Facebook](#)

84% receive and read the monthly newsletter - thank you to those that do!

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STAY CONNECTED:

