College Information

- The school must be a regionally accredited college or university. Front Range Community College (FRCC), University of Colorado at Denver (UCD), University of Colorado at Boulder (CU), Colorado State University (CSU), University of Northern Colorado (UNC), University of Denver (DU) and Naropa are among the accredited institutions in Colorado.
- If you are taking an online course, make sure the school is accredited by a regional accreditation institution.
- Montessori Institutes are accredited by Montessori organizations. This is not the same as the regional accreditations for colleges and universities; therefore, these classes do not qualify for the Financial Incentive.

Professional Experience

For the purpose of this incentive, professional experience is considered to be work overseen by the Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Early Care and Learning.

Accepted types of work with children:
- Licensed family child care provider
- Having worked with children in a licensed child care center or preschool

Not accepted: nanny; Sunday school teacher; parenting; cook; bus driver; or working in an exempt or unlicensed center, unlicensed preschool or unlicensed family childcare home.

For more information:

Contact Emily at erobbins@eccbouldercounty.org

Or visit ECCBC’s web site: www.eccbouldercounty.org (click on “For Providers”, “Professional Development” and then “Financial Incentives”)

ECCBC

The Early Childhood Council of Boulder County

A collaboration of individuals and community agencies that represent early childhood interests in Boulder County.

This program is generously funded by grants from:

Boulder County Department of Housing & Human Services, CCAP

&

The Buell Foundation

October 2019
The Professional Development Financial Incentive of the Early Childhood Council of Boulder County (ECCBC) is a program designed to reward individuals for completing college courses in Early Childhood Education (ECE).

Studies have shown that the amount of formal education a preschool child's teacher has completed is positively correlated to the child’s later academic achievement.

This incentive is designed to encourage and reward individuals who work in the field to pursue college courses in ECE. It is funded by one or more grants received by ECCBC specifically for this purpose.

**What Are the Requirements for the Financial Incentive?**

- Must live or work in Boulder County at the time the course is taken, and when applying for the incentive.
- Must have a minimum of three (3) months in the ECE field.
- Must presently be employed at least 20 hours per week as an ECE professional (e.g., licensed family child care provider, licensed child care center, preschool or Head Start).
- Courses must be in the ECE field or a closely related field.
- Courses must be at an associates or bachelors degree level (Master's-level and doctorate course work are not eligible).
- Course grade must be B or better as documented by transcripts (incompletes and grades less than B are/will not be accepted).
- Up to three (3) credit hours may be used toward the incentive for each application window. The maximum amount awarded is $600.
- Colorado Early Childhood Professional Credential 2.0 holders are awarded at a higher rate, up to the $600 maximum per application window. Credential must be listed in PDIS by January 14, 2020 to apply.
- Official transcripts must accompany the application.
- No double-dipping of education funds provided by ECCBC. For example, you cannot use both the Financial Incentive and the Colorado Shines Quality Improvement grant funds for the same college course.

**How Does It Work?**

The Financial Incentive is set up on a semester basis. This means that college courses taken and completed in either summer or fall 2019 may be used to apply for the Financial Incentive in January/February, 2020. Applications are only accepted from January 15 through February 15, 2020. A postcard is mailed out to acknowledge receipt of the application.

Applications and transcripts are reviewed in February/March, 2020. Those that meet the requirements are put into the accepted application pool. The number of accepted applications is then matched against the amount of money available for that semester’s Financial Incentive. Checks are mailed to individuals no later than April 30, 2020. Courses taken during spring 2020 may be used to apply for the Financial Incentive in June/July, 2020.

Receipt of two Financial Incentives in one calendar year is encouraged. Please contact Emily Robbins at erobbins@eccbouldercounty.org for important information and instructions regarding the receipt of multiple awards.

**Colorado Early Childhood Professional Credential 2.0**

A credential awarded to ECE professionals who meet education and experience criteria set by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). For more information visit http://ecpd.costartstrong.org/ets/pages/?p=credential_2.0 or contact Nicole Malone at nmalone@eccbouldercounty.org.
ECCBC Financial Incentive Application
For College Course Work Completed
June through December 2019

This program provides a financial incentive for Early Care and Education (ECE) professionals
taking college courses in the ECE field or a closely related field. The financial incentive program aims to
support the recruitment and retention of high quality ECE professionals in Boulder County. This program is
generously funded by grants from the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation and
Boulder County Housing and Human Services.

Beginning January 15, 2020, you will be able to apply for the Financial Incentive
for college course work completed during the summer or fall 2019 semesters.

All paperwork must be submitted at one time, including official transcripts and letters (if required).
The application packet needs to be postmarked by February 15, 2020.
The application packet is also available online at www.eccbouldercounty.org

Please fill out both sides of this application – and print legibly!

Name: ________________________________________________  Date of Application: _______________

Note: Check will be made out in the name you enter here and will be sent to this address.

Address: ___________________________________  City: __________________ CO.  Zip Code: ________

Phone: ______________________________ E-mail: _________________________________________

(please print clearly)

Place of Employment:_____________________________________  Date Employed: _______________

Position: _______________________________________ Work Phone Number: ___________________

Note: If at present place of employment for less than three months, you must include a letter from your
previous employer (on company letterhead), documenting your experience in the early childhood field.

College or university: _____________________________________________________________

Note: This must be a regionally accredited college or university. FRCC, CCD, RRCC,UCD, CU, CSU, UNC,
DU, Metro and Naropa are all accredited. Check here for Colorado accredited schools: www.ncahlc.org

Class title(s): _______________________________________________________________________

Semester class was taken: ________________________________ Number of credits: ___________

Note: Up to 3 credits are eligible.

This course is being used to meet (please check all that apply):

_____ Early Childhood Teacher (ECT) Qualifications

_____ Director Qualifications

_____ Credential 2.0 _____ Level

_____ Associates degree; Subject _______________

_____ Bachelor’s degree; Subject _______________

Master’s-level & doctorate course work are not eligible!

_____ *Other; please specify ___________________

_____ *Personal interest

*Applicants must write a letter demonstrating their ongoing
commitment to young children in licensed care in Boulder
County and how their participation in the ECCBC financial
incentive meets early care and education professional
recruitment and retention needs in Boulder County.

_____ This is my first year applying for the Financial Incentive.

Would you like to receive the Training Calendar via email? _____ Yes _____ No. Already receive ___

Email address ____________________________________________________________

Page 1 of 2  over
Requirements. Please check off below to verify that you meet the following requirements:

1. _____ I lived or worked in Boulder County when I took the course.
2. _____ I currently live or work in Boulder County.
3. _____ I have a minimum of 20 hrs. a week for 3 months of professional experience in the Early Childhood field with my current employer, working in a state-licensed child care facility (being a nanny, Sunday school teacher, or parent are not accepted as professional experience). **Note**: If at present place of employment for less than three months, you must include a letter from your previous employer (on company letterhead), documenting your experience in the early childhood field.
4. _____ The course I am using to apply for the Financial Incentive is in the ECE field or a closely related field, or is a required class to receive an associates or bachelor’s degree in ECE or a closely related field. **Note**: Master’s-level & doctorate course work are not eligible.
5. _____ I have received a grade of “B” or better in the course I am using to apply for this incentive (as documented by official transcripts). Incompletes and grades of less than B will not be accepted.
6. _____ I’m sending official transcripts with my application (unofficial transcripts are not accepted).
7. _____ I am presently employed a minimum of 20 hours per week as an ECE professional (e.g., licensed family child care provider, licensed child care center, preschool or Headstart).
   Or
   _____ I am working less than 20 hours per week. I am including the required letter from my employer requesting a variance and stating the number of hours worked per week (on company letterhead).
8. _____ I am a personal interest or other candidate. I am including a letter demonstrating my ongoing commitment to young children in licensed care in Boulder County and how my participation in the ECCBC financial incentive meets early care and education professional recruitment and retention needs in Boulder County.

By signing and sending in an application you are also agreeing to:

**ECCBC Retention Survey**: Participate in the ECCBC Retention Survey conducted 3 years after taking the course. Our funders ask that we conduct this survey to see how many people remain in the field after 3 years. We will contact you or the employer listed on this application to determine your employment status at that time.

**Publication of Names**: Every year ECCBC publicly acknowledges those who have been awarded the Financial Incentive through the publication of a list of award recipients.

I hereby attest that the information provided in this application is complete and accurate. Incomplete and/or inaccurate information will result in the loss of this financial incentive.

Signature: ____________________________________________ Date: __________

**Make Sure to Include:**

- _____ Filled-out and signed application
- _____ Filled-out participant form – both sides (has a lamb on it this year)
- _____ Your official transcripts, which include the class you’re using in the application
- _____ Letter from your director or previous employer (if required)
- _____ Letter demonstrating your ongoing commitment to young children in licensed care in Boulder County (if required)

All paperwork must be submitted at one time, including transcripts and letters (if required). Applications that are missing transcripts, the participant form or other information will be denied.

Mail your application, participant form, and your official transcripts to:

Emily Robbins c/o ECCBC
1285 Centaur Village Drive, Suite 200
Lafayette, CO 80026

(Faxes and emailed applications are not accepted!)

**Must be postmarked by February 15, 2020!**

**Watch for the postcard verifying receipt of your application!**
**Keep it until you receive your check!**
(Let those you live with know to expect it and not to throw it out!)

**Checks will be mailed no later than April 30, 2020!**
Early Childhood Council of Boulder County
Professional Development Program

2019/20 Participant Form

Part One – Basic Information/Identification (please print)

Name: ______________________________________________
Address:__________________________________________________________________
City: ____________________________________ CO, Zip Code: _________

Colorado State Licensing Qualifications (Please check all that apply)

Aide ______
Early Childhood Teacher (ECT) qualified ______  Working toward ECT qualifications ______
Infant Nursery Early Childhood Teacher (IN/ECT) qualified _____  Working toward IN/ECT qualifications ______
Infant Nursery Supervisor (INS) qualified ______  Working toward INS qualifications ______
Small Center Director (SCD) Qualified ______  Working toward SCD qualification ______
Large Center Director (LCD) Qualified ______  Working toward LCD qualifications ______
Child Development Associate (CDA) or other certificate (please name) ______________________
Colorado Elementary Teacher Certification (please name) ______________________
Endorsement (please name) ______________________

Are you familiar with the Colorado Professional Development Information System (PDIS)?
Do you have a personal account in PDIS? 
If yes: Have you applied for the revised early childhood credential through PDIS?
Have you received your revised Colorado Early Childhood Credential? Level? ______
Have you completed the self assessment? 
Have you completed the Professional Development Plan?

Employment

Presently employed at: ____________________________________________ (Name of Program, School)
__________________________________________________________________ (City where employed)

Total number of years employed in the early childhood field: ______  Years with current employer: ______

How many hours are you working per week in child care?

How many children are in your direct care? ______  How many children does your program serve? ______

Education (Please check highest level attained)

High School diploma/GED ______
Some ECE college coursework ______  Masters degree in early childhood ______
Associates degree in early childhood ______  Doctorate degree in early childhood ______
Bachelors degree in early childhood ______
Non ECE some college course work (please list focus) ______________________
Non ECE Degree (please list degree type and focus) ______________________

Are you presently working toward an early childhood degree? yes no
If so, what degree? Applied _____ Associates _____ Bachelors _____ Masters _____ Other ______

Anticipated date of degree completion?

Have you taken Expanding Quality in Infant/Toddler care (EQIT)? yes no

How many Colorado Shines Level 2 online courses have you taken?

Languages Spoken Fluently

English _____ Spanish _____ Other (please list) ______________________
Part Two – Information to Assist in Designing Appropriate New Opportunities

1. Are you receiving financial assistance for professional development?
   No  Yes  If yes, please list source

2. How much financial assistance do you anticipate receiving (not including the ECCBC Financial Incentive) between June 2019 and May 2020?

3. How important is taking college level courses in early childhood education to your future?
   (please pick one that applies the best)
   Very Important  Somewhat Important  Not at all Important  Don’t Know

4. How important is the Colorado Early Childhood Credential to your future?
   (please pick the one that applies the best)
   Very Important  Somewhat Important  Not at all Important  Don’t Know

5. Are you interested in attending local professional development trainings?
   Workshops offered on behavior management, child development, teaching strategies, etc. These earn clock hours toward relicensing but do not earn college credits. (please pick the one that applies the best)
   Very Interested  Somewhat Interested  Not at all Interested

6. How important is attending professional development training workshops to you?
   (please pick the one that applies the best)
   Very Important  Somewhat Important  Not at all Important

7. What are the barriers to you in taking college courses? (please pick all that apply)
   Time (not offered at the right time of day/night)  Interest (not important enough)
   Timing (maybe at another stage of life)  Money (can’t afford it)
   Ability (don’t think I am smart enough)  Child Care (not available)
   Transportation (can’t get to the trainings)  Offerings are not advanced enough
   No Incentive (participation won’t advance professional status or salary)
   Other ____________________________  No Barriers exist for me at this time.

8. What are the barriers which prevent you from attending local professional development training workshops? (please pick all that apply)
   Time (not offered at the right time of day/night)  Interest (not important enough)
   Timing (maybe at another stage of life)  Money (can’t afford it)
   Ability (don’t think I am smart enough)  Child Care (not available)
   Transportation (can’t get to the trainings)  Trainings are not advanced enough
   No Incentive (participation won’t advance professional status or salary)
   Other ____________________________  No Barriers exist for me at this time.

If you would like to receive the CCR&R provider emails, which include the ECCBC Professional Development Monthly Training Calendars along with additional monthly updates, please print your email address:

___________________________________________________

Thank you! Please return this form to:
Emily Robbins
c/o Early Childhood Council of Boulder County
1285 Centaur Village Drive, Suite 200
Lafayette, CO 80026