

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

ECCBC Financial Incentive for Early Childhood Education



Earn money for completing college courses in Early Childhood Education



What Is the Financial Incentive?

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 and aims to support the recruitment and retention of high quality ECE professionals in Boulder County. It is funded by one or more grants received by ECCBC specifically for this purpose.

Financial Incentive application packets for courses taken in spring 2020 are posted on ECCBC's website beginning June 15, 2020.

www.eccbouldercounty.org

They are also mailed with the Summer 2020 Training Calendar.

Financial Incentive application packets for courses taken in either summer or fall 2020 will be available on ECCBC's website beginning January 15, 2021 and are also mailed with the January 2021 Training Calendar.

Ask to be on the Monthly Training Calendar email list and you will receive the application automatically. Contact Jessica at jknight@eccbouldercounty.org.

Applications for courses completed in spring 2020 must be postmarked by July 15, 2020.

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 professional experience 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). *****If you are experiencing a hardship and cannot meet this requirement due to the impact of COVID-19, a hardship option is available for this application window. Please see application for details.*****
- 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 July 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 spring 2020 may be used to apply for the Financial Incentive in June/July, 2020.

Applications are only accepted from June 15 through July 15, 2020. A postcard is mailed out to acknowledge receipt of the application.

Applications and transcripts are reviewed in July/August, 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 September 30, 2020.

Courses taken during either summer or fall 2020 may be used to apply for the Financial Incentive in January/February, 2021.

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 January through June 2020

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 Buell Foundation and Boulder County Housing and Human Services.

Beginning June 15, 2020, you will be able to apply for the Financial Incentive for college course work completed during the spring 2020 semester.

All paperwork must be submitted at one time, including official transcripts and letters (if required). The application packet needs to be **postmarked by July 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):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Childhood Teacher (ECT) Qualifications | <input type="checkbox"/> *Other; please specify _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Director Qualifications | <input type="checkbox"/> *Personal interest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Credential 2.0 _____ Level | <i>*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.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associates degree; Subject _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree; Subject _____ | |

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

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 _____

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). **Note: If you are experiencing a hardship and cannot meet this requirement due to the impact of COVID-19, please include a letter explaining the details of your hardship while also demonstrating your ongoing commitment to young children in licensed care in Boulder County and how your participation in the ECCBC financial incentive meets early care and education professional recruitment and retention needs in Boulder County.**

Or

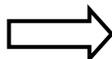
- _____ I am working less than 20 hours per week. I am including the required letter from my employer requesting a variance and stating the number of hours worked per week (on company letterhead).
8. _____ I am a personal interest or other candidate. I am including a letter demonstrating my ongoing commitment 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 kitten 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 July 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 September 30, 2020!



Early Childhood Council of Boulder County Professional Development Program



2020/21 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)*? yes no
Do you have a personal account in PDIS? yes no
If yes: Have you applied for the revised early childhood credential through PDIS? yes no
Have you received your revised Colorado Early Childhood Credential? yes no Level? _____
Have you completed the self assessment? yes no
Have you completed the Professional Development Plan? yes no

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 _____ Bachelors degree in early childhood _____
Some ECE college coursework _____ Masters degree in early childhood _____
Associates degree in early childhood _____ Doctorate 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? _____
How many college credits will you take between June 2020 through May 2021? _____
Have you taken Expanding Quality in Infant/Toddler care (EQIT)? yes no
How many Colorado Shines Level 2 online courses have you taken? _____
Have you taken Touch Points Individual Level Training? yes no

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 2020 and May 2021? _____
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

