

## 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](mailto:erobbins@eccbouldercounty.org)

Or visit ECCBC's web site:  
[www.eccbouldercounty.org](http://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. It is funded by one or more grants received by ECCBC specifically for this purpose.

Financial Incentive application packets for courses taken in either summer or fall 2020 are posted on ECCBC's website beginning January 15, 2021.

[www.eccbouldercounty.org](http://www.eccbouldercounty.org)

They are also mailed with the January 2021 Training Calendar.

Financial Incentive application packets for courses taken in spring 2021 will be available on ECCBC's website beginning June 15, 2021 and are also mailed with the Summer 2021 Training Calendar.

Ask to be on the Monthly Training Calendar email list and you will receive the application automatically. Contact Emily at [erobbins@eccbouldercounty.org](mailto:erobbins@eccbouldercounty.org).

**Applications for courses completed in either summer or fall 2020 must be postmarked by February 15, 2021.**

## 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 official transcripts (pass/fail, incompletes, or 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, 2021 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 2020 may be used to apply for the Financial Incentive in January/February, 2021.

**Applications are only accepted from January 15 through February 15, 2021.** A postcard is mailed out to acknowledge receipt of the application.

Applications and transcripts are reviewed in February/March, 2021. 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, 2021.

Courses taken during spring 2021 may be used to apply for the Financial Incentive in June/July, 2021.

**Receipt of two Financial Incentives in one calendar year is encouraged. Please contact Emily Robbins at [erobbins@eccbouldercounty.org](mailto: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](http://ecpd.costartstrong.org/ets/pages/?p=credential_2.0)

or contact Nicole Malone at

[nmalone@eccbouldercounty.org](mailto:nmalone@eccbouldercounty.org)