

Scholar education options in child development



Photo courtesy of Oklahoma City Community College



Photo courtesy of Rogers State University



For more information, visit:
www.okhighered.org/scholars

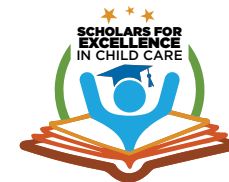
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Scholarships for Child Care Professionals

Just Like You



Oklahoma State Regents for
Higher Education



Advance Your Career to Earn More

Take a step toward success

There are many steps you can take to advance your career as a child care professional. The first step is to begin your education to earn credentials such as the **Child Development Associate (CDA)** credential and the **Certificate of Mastery**. Earning these credentials can lead to many career benefits. From there, many options are available for furthering your education to heighten your career.

The **Scholars** program provides a sequential professional development path for teachers, directors and family child care home providers (or child care professionals) and scholarship support while taking courses leading to a credential in child development.

Benefits of earning a credential

- Increased knowledge
- Increased confidence
- Increased opportunity for better pay, recognition and a sense of accomplishment
- Improved job performance and service to children and families
- Reinforce commitment to child development
- Professional achievement that validates knowledge and skills in child development

Scholarship eligibility

To qualify for the **Scholars** program, child care providers must:

- Be employed at a licensed child care facility at least three months before beginning coursework.
- Be employed in a one-star plus or above, DHS-licensed, military-monitored, or tribal-monitored child care facility.
- Be employed as a teacher or family child care provider (caring for children other than your own) working at least 30 hours per week earning \$15.50 or less per hour OR
- Be employed as an assistant director or director working at least 30 hours per week earning \$20.00 or less per hour.
- Once approved, be on a child development or early childhood education plan of study.



Photo courtesy of Northern Oklahoma College

Support and assistance

Being a scholar is a collaborative process between you and the **Scholars** program. Working closely with your scholar coordinator can help you set and achieve goals, connect with campus resources and make responsible decisions consistent with your interests, goals, abilities and credential.

The **Scholars** program promotes scholar success by empowering scholars to take responsibility for achieving their academic and professional goals.

Scholar coordinators:

- Provide support services and technical assistance.
- Help scholars navigate through the entire process, from the application for the scholarship, admissions and financial aid to credential completion.
- Provide academic and career advisement to ensure scholars' success.
- Provide guidance in exploring scholars' credential options to ensure compatibility with educational and professional goals.



Photo courtesy of Rose State College

How to pay for it

With the **Scholars** program, you can:

- Get **free** books.
- Pay only **10%** of the tuition costs.
- Earn Pell Grants for additional aid, if qualified.



Photos courtesy of Oklahoma State University - Oklahoma City

