

FACTS:

- This scholarship provides recipients with the necessary credentials to obtain a job in First Class Pre-K.
- This scholarship is for qualified child care professionals working in early childhood centers/programs (i.e. child care, Head Start, faith-based, Title I, First Class); priority is given to child care professionals in First Class pre-K settings
- The scholarship is funded through the Department of Early Childhood Education
- Applicants can obtain CDA, AAS, BS in Child Development or Early Childhood Education from an accredited in-state institution
- Applicants are encouraged to apply for other financial aid (i.e. Pell grant, TEACH, Leadership)
- This scholarship may pay for students to take the same class only 1 time

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Applicant has to live in Alabama
- Applicant has to be working in an early childhood education setting
- Applicant must attend an accredited college/university in Alabama
- Award based on eligibility of funds

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Provide a completed application and verifications of residency and employment in early childhood in Alabama
- Be employed in early childhood program
- Apply for college admission, complete all admission requirements and receive a letter of acceptance from the institutions

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Scholarship funds from DECE are only available for one course per semester. If students plan to take multiple courses in the summer, permission must be given by the scholarship administrator prior to the student registering for the courses.
- Students receiving a DECE scholarship must send scholarship administrator a copy of the course registration form in order for DECE to send monies to the institution prior to drop/add registration date
- Maintain 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average in general education classes and at least a 3.0 in specialized coursework
- Scholarship recipients must submit their grades to the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education at the end of each semester. If an applicant receives a "D", "F", or "incomplete" for the semester, the applicant must repay funding that was awarded through the scholarship or pay for a required subsequent course
- Students must follow college procedures and deadlines for withdrawing from courses. Scholarship recipients must notify the scholarship administrator at DECE if withdrawal is done after the last date for drop/add registration.
- If recipients are unable to attend classes for valid reasons, a letter must be submitted to the scholarship administrator at DECE to avoid repayment of tuition to DECE

Contact information:

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