



because the first 5 years matter

## 2024-2025 Scholars Program Overview

Preschool Promise is pleased to support your pursuit of a credential or degree in early childhood education. This program is intended to help those who wish to work with young children in a child care or preschool setting after graduation. We know that teachers and administrators and all staff working with young children play a super important role in making sure our children are ready for kindergarten. We also know that having the most current knowledge about how to teach young children is important. **We applaud you for wanting to get a credential or degree in Early Childhood Education!**

### Who can participate

Staff who work **at least 15 hours a week at a Preschool Promise partner site** who are getting a degree or credential to support their work in a preschool or child care setting. We have limited space in the program and will consider availability before each semester.

### We are currently accepting applications for the following degrees and institutions:

1. Child Development Associate (CDA) through 4C for Children or CareCourses
2. Associate's in ECE (non-licensure pathway) at Sinclair College or University of Cincinnati online
3. Bachelor's in ECE (non-licensure) at University of Cincinnati
4. Bachelor's in ECE (licensure pathway) at Central State, University of Cincinnati, or Wright State

### What Preschool Promise will do

We applaud you for continuing your education. We offer the Scholars program to help you be successful in finishing your credential. Here's what Preschool Promise will do to help you pursue your degree/credential:

1. Pay up to \$10,000 a year for tuition\*
2. Pay for books and other necessary supplies
3. Provide advice and support to help you navigate study techniques and challenges that arise
4. Pay a completion stipend at the end of your degree when you submit a copy of your new credential (\$500 for CDA, \$1,000 for Associate's, and \$1,500 for Bachelor's)

*\*Note that we are not able to pay for late fees, health insurance costs, or room and board.*

## What each participating Scholar must do

### *Before being accepted into the program:*

1. Be employed at a Preschool Promise partner site working at least 15 hours a week in an early childhood and education (ECE) role.
2. Attend an information session.
3. Complete an application and go through a screening process.

### *At the start of each school year:*

- Sign our Scholars MOU in a timely manner. This is an agreement about what we will do and what you will do, and we can't pay your tuition until we have this from you.
- CDA candidates should set aside time regularly to make consistent progress with their classes.

Associate's and Bachelor's candidates should:

- Enroll in the higher education institution and work with their advisor at the University to sign up for classes.
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) every year and send us a copy of their FAFSA letter.
- Apply for scholarships.

### *During the semester:*

- Continue to work at least 15 hours a week at a Preschool Promise partner site and remain in good standing with your employer..
- Notify us if your job changes or if your email or phone number changes.
- Respond to check-in emails, phone calls, and surveys.
- Let us know when you have challenges and need help.
- Study and stay in good standing with your institution.

## Want to learn more?

We are here to help! If you have any questions, please send an email to [scholars@preschoolpromise.org](mailto:scholars@preschoolpromise.org). You can also visit our website at <https://www.preschoolpromise.org/scholars>.