



The Early Childhood Education: P-3 & Leadership Financial Assistance Project

Instructions

The Montana Early Childhood Education: P-3 and Leadership Financial Assistance Project was created with funds made available through the Montana Preschool Development Grant. The goal of the project is to build early childhood teacher and leadership capacity statewide through financial assistance to individuals pursuing course work leading to the new Montana ECE: P—3 teacher endorsement or an early childhood master’s degree.

Financial assistance will be awarded through an application process **on a priority basis (see below)**. Financial assistance will pay the full cost of tuition and fees plus a \$400 stipend for books each term. The cost of required background checks for students will also be included if necessary. **These funds will be paid directly to the institution for each recipient. Books need to be purchased before courses begin and the \$400 book stipend will be issued as a refund from the institution you are enrolled in.**

The project is a collaboration between the Office of Public Instruction, the Department of Public Health and Human Services Early Childhood Services Bureau, MSU’s Early Childhood Project, the Montana Early Childhood Higher Education Consortium, and Montana institutions of higher education that are regionally accredited. **P-3 Financial Assistance will be available based on the following criteria:**

1. An individual must have a current Practitioner Registry Certificate at the time of application. The ECP will check your registry status online upon receipt of your application. The Practitioner Registry application is available online at www.mtecp.org. It may take up to 8 weeks to receive your current certificate depending upon how quickly you verify your application information by sending the ECP documentation.
2. Applicants must be working a minimum of 15 hours a week in a licensed child care center, registered family child care home, registered group child care home, Head Start program, tribal child care, preschool program in a public school, or K – 3 in a public school.
3. Applicants must be pursuing course work that leads to the ECE: P-3 Endorsement. It is understood that some students may not complete all of the course work necessary to achieve the ECE: P-3 endorsement within the four year grant period.
4. You must be taking coursework through Salish Kootenai College , AND be a Montana resident. For more information regarding residency requirements visit: mus.edu/Prepare/College/Montana_Residency_Requirements.asp.
5. If you receive ECE: P-3 & Leadership financial assistance you are not eligible for the Higher Education Professional Development Incentive Award through the ECP.

Priorities for financial assistance awards shall be as follows:

First Priority

- Lead teachers in targeted programs
- Assistant teachers and aides in targeted programs

Second Priority

- Lead teacher, assistant teachers and aides who live in the targeted communities working in a state licensed or registered child care program, Head Start, Early Head Start, Public School Preschool, or Tribal Child Care program
- Special Education P -12 licensed preschool teachers in targeted community school districts

Third Priority

- Non-teachers (such as family engagement coordinators, program directors, education managers, curriculum coordinators, site supervisors, disability coordinators, specialists) working in the targeted programs pursuing an early childhood master's degree at UM (either track)
- Non-teachers working in the targeted programs (see above) pursuing the ECE: P - 3 teacher endorsement
- Non-teachers working (see above) in other early childhood programs (as defined in Priority 2 above) in the targeted communities

Fourth Priority

- Teachers working in a state licensed or registered child care program, Head Start, Early Head Start, Public School Preschool, or Tribal Child Care in other communities.

Fifth Priority

- K – 3 teachers in targeted communities

Targeted Program and Targeted Community Definitions:

- Targeted Programs include all classrooms served by the Cohort Programs.
- Targeted communities include all cities/towns where Cohort Program classrooms are located.
- All targeted programs are listed on the information link about the project at www.mtecp.org/incentives.html

If you have any questions, please contact Cassie Noble at 406-404-1624 ext. 305 or cassandra.noble@montana.edu or Libby Hancock at 406-404-1624 ext. 302 or libbyh@montana.edu

Completed applications can be emailed to cassandra.noble@montana.edu

Or mailed to:

Early Childhood Project—MSU

PO Box 173540

Bozeman, MT 59717



FOR ECP OFFICE USE ONLY
 Priority:
 PR Level:
 Exp. Date:

Salish Kootenai College Fall 2017 RENEWAL Form

The Early Childhood Education: P-3 & Leadership Financial Assistance Project

Instructions: This form is ONLY for students who have been previously awarded P-3 & Leadership Financial Assistance.
 Email to cassandra.noble@montana.edu or mail to: Early Childhood Project-MSU, PO Box 173540, Bozeman, MT 59717
 Due date: August 18, 2017 at 4:00 P.M.

Please type or print using BLUE OR BLACK ink.

Personal Information

Name: _____ State PS# (If applicable): _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

You MUST remain current on the Practitioner Registry to continue to be eligible for financial assistance. We will verify your current status online.

FALL 2017 — PLAN OF STUDY

Each column below must be completed as shown in the example.

Course Number	Course Name	Name of College	Start Date & End Date	Credits
ex: EDEC 405	Assessment in EC	Salish Kootenai College	8/24/15—12/16/15	3
Total Credits:				

I am enrolled in this institution and have registered or intend to register for the courses indicated above.

I have discussed my course of study with an institution contact/advisor.

Name of institution Contact/Advisor: _____ Date Contacted: _____

My expected date of graduation is: _____

Employment Information— MUST BE COMPLETED EVEN IF YOUR EMPLOYMENT HAS REMAINED THE SAME

Place of Employment: _____ Work Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Is this a Montana state licensed or registered child care facility? Yes No State PV# : _____

Check the program type:

- Child care center Family child care home Group child care home Head Start program
 Tribal Child Care Preschool in a public school K-3 public school

Position Title:

- Teacher Assistant Teacher Aide Non-teaching staff (i.e. Family Engagement Coordinator)
 Director Other: _____

Employer Certification: (Must be completed even if you are the owner/director of the facility)

I certify that _____ is currently working 15 or more hours per week in the program listed above and that all employment information is true and correct.

Signature of Director/Owner/Supervisor: _____ **Print Name:** _____

I certify that all information given is true and correct.

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Renewal Forms must be received by 4:00 p.m. August 18, 2017

Faxed applications will not be accepted.

Email to cassandra.noble@montana.edu

Or mail to: Early Childhood Project-MSU

PO Box 173540

Bozeman, MT 59717