

April 2010 Request for Proposals
T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® MICHIGAN

The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Project is a comprehensive initiative for early care and education providers developed and initially implemented in North Carolina by the Child Care Services Association (CCSA). The Project encompasses several different scholarship programs that link education, compensation and retention. Attached are informational materials which help describe T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® MICHIGAN.

Currently, the Project is licensed to organizations in 20 other states. In order to be a viable candidate to be the license holder and administrator of T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® MICHIGAN, an organization must be able to meet the following criteria:

1. Be a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, not-for-profit.
2. Have the state-wide early childhood community as its service population. This means that the organization must have a vision for the needs of and experience working in the early childhood community across the state.
3. Have a successful history with working collaboratively, in particular, with colleges and trainers who serve the early care and education community.
4. Have administrative capacity to manage funds and track results.
5. Have a demonstrated ability to access public and private funds and be willing to seek funds to expand the project.
6. Not have a conflict of interest, such as the operation of early care and education programs that might receive scholarships, being an organization that represents only a limited segment of the child care community or providing education that might be purchased through a scholarship.

The administrative agency for T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® MICHIGAN must sign a contract that requires the agency to:

- Develop scholarship programs using the state existing educational system;
- Create partnerships between the agency, early care and education programs and scholarship recipients;
- Serve a diverse provider population;
- Ensure that all T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarship programs have all four T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Project components: scholarship provisions, education requirements, compensation incentives and commitment (retention) expectations;
- Participate in a comprehensive training/technical process upon issuance of the license to ensure that agency leadership has full understanding of the current program and T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® nationally;
- Receive required consultation/monitoring visits, pay associated costs of visits, and adhere to recommendations during the license period;
- Engage in a continuous quality improvement process with defined competencies and self-study;
- Provide CCSA with quarterly and annual reports; and
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the scholarship program.