



Early Childhood Certificate + Preapprenticeship for High School (CTE) Students

2026-27 Overview

Earn college credit, gain real work experience, and get paid—while still in high school.

This one- or two-year program gives high school students the opportunity to earn college credit, gain hands-on work experience in early childhood, and begin a career pathway in education.

- Earn an Early Childhood Certificate or a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential
- Gain up to 400 hours of real classroom experience
- Earn up to \$6,000 while you learn

Student Eligibility

- ▶ High school junior or senior
- ▶ Recommended by a teacher, counselor or school administrator
- ▶ Reliable transportation (program-specific requirements may vary)

How the CTE Scholarship + Preapprenticeship works

| | TEACH Early Childhood | Student | School District |
|--|---|---|--|
| Tuition | 100% | Free | - |
| Books | 100% | Free | - |
| School District Stipend | \$150 paid to the district for every CTE student each semester | Students must complete certificate coursework with passing grades | - |
| Work Experience And Stipend | Students gain supervised work experience in licensed early childhood programs while earning up to \$1,500 per semester based on work hours. | | AND |
| Education Incentive | \$350 incentive paid at the end of each year to the student upon successful completion of coursework | Complete up to 100 hours each semester (up to 400 total) of supervised work experience in a licensed early childhood classroom. | AND |
| Technology | One-time stipend of \$700 paid to the student for the purchase of a new laptop | | Make recommendations about each student's participation in the program |
| Child Development Associate (CDA) Fee | 100% of CDA application fee covered for students who wish to pursue the CDA credential | | AND |
| | | | Assist in arranging for work experience opportunity for the student in a licensed child care or pre-K program. |

Talk to your school counselor or the TEACH office to learn how to apply.

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