

Back to Work: Early Childhood Education

Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative (COSI)

Scholarship Program

SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS

In addition to providing individual student support, the Back to Work: ECE COSI Scholarship isn't just for paying for tuition and fees, it can also be used to pay for your educational expenses. These expenses include things like books, supplies, transportation to/from school, **and more!** ECCLA will reimburse you for approved educational expenses to help you complete your degree or certificate and get **Back to Work**.

The Back to Work: ECE COSI Scholarship also works in conjunction with other scholarships and programs, like T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® COLORADO, ASPIRE, T-PREP, and more!

PARTICIPANT COMMITMENTS

- Complete required scholarship forms, including a Degree/Certificate Plan
- Must attend and successfully complete all courses until degree or certificate program is complete
- Must complete degree/certificate by **June 30, 2024**
- Submit grades to ECCLA after each semester
- Submit an Expense Report prior to each semester to document educational expenses and request reimbursement

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact **Cameron Fall**, ECE Scholarship/Career Navigator, cameron@ecclacolorado.org

Visit our website http://www.ecclacolorado.org/

Overview

Back to Work: Early Childhood Education is a unique scholarship program that works to **support Coloradans displaced by the COVID-19 pandemic**, including those laid off or furloughed, those that have experienced decreased earnings, had job offers rescinded, or could not enter the workforce because of adverse economic conditions. The Early Childhood Council Leadership Alliance (ECCLA) is proud to partner with the Colorado Department of Higher Education's COSI program to help provide the education and training you need for your next job in the Early Childhood field, through the new Back to Work Grant!

Eligibility

Participants must meet the following criteria and complete a credential/degree by June 2024:

- Student experienced an economic loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as lost or adverse changes in employment, increased food or housing insecurity, had to withdraw from college after March 13, 2020, or suffered another form of economic loss.
- Student is seeking to enroll or already enrolled in a credential or degree program related to the Early Childhood field
- Student is enrolled (or plans to enroll) at a Colorado Public Institution of Higher Education
- Student can complete credential or degree by June 30, 2024
- Student is living in Colorado and has an income that is determined to be between 0 and 250% of the maximum permissible income to determine eligibility for Pell grants (EFC 14,614 or less).

Supports Offered

- Support in enrollment, registration, understanding the total cost of obtaining your degree, CAFSA, FAFSA, financial aid, scholarships, and more!
- Support in navigating institutional barriers, academic hurdles, and social, wellness, familial, and personal concerns
- 1:1 support to ensure progression toward the completion of your credential/degree
- Support in connecting to resources, careers, and transitioning back into the workforce

ECCLA's mission is to improve the quality, capacity, and equity of services and supports for Colorado's young children and their families through a statewide network of Early Childhood Councils and key stakeholders.