

Scholarship Criteria

The following applies to all scholarships through the Louisiana Pathways Child Care Career Development System:

1. The statewide scholarship program is open to individuals working with Louisiana children in Class A child care centers and family child care homes.
2. Enrollment and active participation in Louisiana Pathways Child Care Career Development System is required to receive a scholarship.
3. Class B child care centers are prohibited by state law from receiving funds through Louisiana Pathways.
4. Scholarship recipients must agree to participate in a written or verbal evaluation of their scholarship experience.

The following contains specific guidelines for each scholarship:
CDA Assessment Scholarship

1. You must have met all of the requirements as stated by the **Council for Professional Recognition**. For CDA requirements contact 800-424-4310 or go to their website at: <http://www.cdacouncil.org>.
2. The scholarship is available to CDA candidates in Louisiana who are ready for their assessment.
3. The scholarship pays \$300 of the \$325 assessment fee.

Administrative Training

1. The scholarship is for administrative training with a cost of \$100.00 or more and conducted in Louisiana. Workshops are not covered under the scholarship unless there is a substantial fee associated with the workshop.
2. Training offered through Continuing Education or the Small Business Development Center of any Louisiana College or University will be considered.
3. Training will be offered in various locations in the state and the participant is responsible for registration with the sponsoring agency. Contact Louisiana Pathways for scholarship information.
4. Proof of registration for the course is required.
5. Scholarships for the National Administrators Credential are paid only after the participant has met credential requirements.
6. Administrative training will not meet scholarship criteria if the money paid to cover the tuition for such training would eventually leave the state of Louisiana. For example, Montessori World Institute training offered here in Louisiana does not meet scholarship criteria because the money is paid to California. The only exception would be NAC training sponsored by the National Child Care Association in Washington, D.C.

College Tuition Assistance

1. Applicants have the option of applying for a **partial tuition scholarship** or a **full tuition scholarship**. The **partial tuition scholarship** is available to individuals working towards a Masters or Doctoral degree in early childhood education and/or a closely related field, non-degree seeking students, and those working towards CDA training. The **full tuition scholarship** is available to individuals with majors such as Early Childhood Education, Child Development, Birth to Five/Early Intervention, Pre K- 3rd, Care and Development of the Young Child, Day Care Administration and General Studies with concentration in Early Childhood Education /or Child Development.
2. The applicant may attend as a full-time or part-time student of any accredited school in Louisiana including Vocational-Technical Colleges, Community Colleges, Two-Year College/Universities, and Four-Year College/Universities.
3. The scholarship is not based on income.
4. Textbooks and student fees (i.e. technology, academic, and athletic, etc.) are not included in the scholarship.
5. Financial Aid documentation is required for all students. If someone receives a Pell Grant, or other type of scholarship that covers or exceeds their tuition needs (i.e. tuition cost \$900 – Pell Grant \$1,000), they may not qualify to receive a scholarship.
6. All payments are made to the educational institution, not to individuals. **Reimbursement from Louisiana Pathways to an individual or agency is prohibited.**
7. Tuition for courses in early childhood education will be considered for the **partial tuition scholarship**. Early childhood education, child development, and birth to five/early interventionist education courses are eligible. We will consider some courses such as general psychology, child psychology, educational psychology, and introduction to computer science, introduction to business, nutrition for children, first aid, speech, developmental psychology, and other courses that provide extensive education/training on working with preschool children.
8. In addition to required scholarship documents, applicants applying for a **full or partial tuition scholarship** must submit the following information:
 - a letter of commitment to the child care field in Louisiana
 - letter of recommendation from a high school counselor, department professor/instructor, advisor, or director
 - plan of study / course descriptions
 - schedule of classes
 - personal fee bill
 - transcripts
9. Scholarship applicants receiving a **full tuition scholarship** must participate in an observation experience for a minimum of 6 hours during the semester in which the scholarship was awarded. Observations should be performed in at least 3 different Class A child care centers, Head Start, Early Head Start, Pre K Lab Schools, or Kindergarten Classes. Observation hours required by your classroom coursework will be considered. Documentation of observation hours must be received by the scholarship office for future scholarship consideration.
10. Scholarship recipients receiving **partial or full college tuition scholarships** must currently work part-time or full-time in a Class A child care center or family child care home.

The National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)
Home Accreditation Scholarship

1. Applicants must offer care and education to children in a home, spending at least 80% of the time with the children.
2. You must have at least 18 months experience in registered family child care (12 months experience if participating in an intensive training program).
3. You must be a member of NAFCC. For more information on joining or to receive additional information on home accreditation go to: www.nafcc.org.
4. An advisor/representative must confirm in writing or verbally that the applicant has met the requirements as stated by NAFCC.
5. You must be at least 21 years old and have a high school diploma or GED and at least a CDA (Child Development Associate) credential.
6. The scholarship pays \$475 of the \$495 accreditation fee.

Louisiana Pathways Child Care Career Development System
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