



Right from the Start

2017-2018 Early Childhood Development Scholarships

The Department of Education, Culture and Employment (ECE) *Right from the Start Early Childhood Development Framework and Action Plan* has committed to increasing the number of qualified Early Childhood Development (ECD) professionals in licensed child care facilities in the Northwest Territories (NWT).

Scholarships of \$5000 each will be awarded to NWT students to help full-time¹ college and/or university students offset the costs of attending southern accredited² post-secondary institutions to complete Diploma or Degree programs with a direct focus in Early Childhood Development studies during the 2017-2018 academic year. Students enrolled in online programs are not eligible.

Applications will be judged according to criteria outlined in the application package.

Preference will be given to applicants who meet the additional criteria:

- applicants that have indicated they plan to return to the NWT to pursue a career in early childhood development;
- applicants from small NWT communities; and,
- applicants who are in their first year of study.

Applicants must ensure all information is complete and accurate and all requirements listed in the Part I of the application are submitted to the Department of ECE by the deadline.

Completed applications will include the following documents:

- Application Form (A, B & C)
 - Letter of Acceptance or Conditional Acceptance to diploma or degree program
 - Information on diploma or degree program
 - Proof of NWT Residency (2 pieces)
 - Copy of Academic Transcripts (if applicable)
 - Letter of Intent
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DEADLINE

Applications must be received by **5:00 P.M. MDT on October 15, 2017**, to be considered. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all required documentation is submitted and received prior to the deadline.

¹ Full-time programs must meet the minimum requirement of at least 60% of a 100% full course load or in the case of a student with a permanent disability, 40% of a 100% full course load.

² Accredited programs must be on the list of designated educational institutions located here:
http://www.esdc.gc.ca/en/post_secondary/designated_schools.page



PART I - ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To complete your application, you must provide the following:

1. Completed Part II – APPLICATION FORM (A, B & C)
2. Letter of acceptance from a southern college or university detailing your studies in an Early Childhood Development focused Diploma or Degree program, specifying the date your studies begin, and the length of the program you are enrolled in. A letter of conditional acceptance is also acceptable. ECE staff may contact you after your program start date to confirm your attendance.
3. Information on the Diploma or Degree program. For example, this could include a brochure, or a print-out of a description of the program from the institution's website.
4. Proof of current NWT residency (legible copy of your NWT Health Card, General Identification Card, Driver's License). Must submit **two** proofs of residency documents **that will not be expired** before the application deadline.
5. A copy of your official or unofficial transcript from the previous academic year (not a requirement for students leaving high school and entering their first year of the Early Childhood Development Program). You must have an overall passing grade as determined by your postsecondary institution.
6. A letter of intent, approximately 1-2 pages, which includes all of the following elements:
 - a. Your career plan and goals, including what you plan to do when you have finished your program;
 - b. Why you chose to pursue a career in Early Childhood Development;
 - c. How you expect this diploma/degree program to benefit you and your career goals;
 - d. Why you should be chosen as a recipient of an Early Childhood Development scholarship;
 - e. Where you aim to live and work after graduation.



PART II – APPLICATION FORM

A. Applicant/Contact Information

Your full name: _____
Last First Middle

NWT Home
Address: _____
Address City/Town Postal Code

Address
while at
school: _____
Address City/Town Postal Code

Home Phone: _____ Other Phone: _____

Email: _____

B. Academic Studies Information

Degree/diploma Program Name: _____

College/University Name: _____

Location of College/University: _____

Program start date: _____ Program end date: _____

Course Load³: Full-time Part-time

Please indicate if you are planning to pursue a career in the Northwest Territories in the field of early childhood development: Yes No

³ Full-time programs must meet the minimum requirement of at least 40% of a 100% full course load as a student with a permanent disability or 60% of a 100% full course load.



C. Declaration:

I, _____, certify that the information I have provided is true and accurate. I understand that scholarships are awarded for use in the current academic year only. I further understand that if successful in my application, any tax implications or considerations will be my responsibility and that I must be in good financial standing with the GNWT to receive payment.

All of the responses and information provided will be kept confidential and will be protected under the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, section 40.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

If you are awarded a scholarship, your MLA may wish to obtain your contact information for the purpose of acknowledging your achievement. Do you agree to the release of your contact information for this purpose?

Yes No

I acknowledge that, if I am a recipient of the *Right from The Start Early Childhood Development Scholarship Program*, my name and image may be used to raise awareness of the Program and its objectives, and that I will be expected, if able, to participate in events to achieve these objectives. I agree to these terms.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

PART III - PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION PACKAGE

Please ensure your package includes the following:

- ___ Application Form (A, B & C)
- ___ Letter of Acceptance or Conditional Acceptance
- ___ Information on diploma or degree program
- ___ Proof of NWT Residency (2 pieces)
- ___ Copy of Academic Transcripts (if applicable)
- ___ Letter of Intent



PART IV - SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION PACKAGE

All documents must be received by the deadline of 5:00 P.M. MDT on September 15, 2017.

Please choose one of the following methods of delivery:

- Mail:
Right From the Start (Re: ECD Scholarships)
Early Childhood Development and Learning Division
GNWT Department of Education, Culture and Employment
P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9
- In person:
Early Childhood Development and Learning Division
GNWT Department of Education, Culture and Employment
2nd Floor Lahm Ridge Tower, 4501 50th Avenue,
Yellowknife
- Email:
Rightfromthestart@gov.nt.ca
- Fax:
(867)-873-0109
Attn: Right From the Start Programs (Re: ECD Scholarships)

It is your responsibility to ensure your documentation is received by the deadline. Once these documents are received you will receive by e-mail, at the e-mail address you provided in your application, a confirmation of receipt.

Your application will be assessed based upon meeting all of the requirements as outlined in Part I and Part II of the application. Applications will be judged according to criteria outlined in the application package.

Please note, not all applicants will receive a scholarship.

Priority will be given to students enrolled in their first year of studies, as well as students that have not previously received a scholarship. Preference will be given to those applicants that have indicated they plan to return to the Northwest Territories to pursue a career in early childhood development. All decisions of the selection committee are final.

Once the scholarship selection committee has made its decision and awarded the available scholarships, you will receive by email its decision concerning your application.

Questions can be directed to 1-867-767-9354.