

Early Childhood Workforce and Program Incentives

All of the incentives outlined below are designed to support professional development and improve overall program quality in early care and education in Montana for young children and families.

Awards Administered by the Early Childhood Project		
The Practitioner Registry Renewal Awards	Upon completion of consecutive annual renewals 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 on The Practitioner Registry	\$100 – for those at Levels 2 and 3 of the Career Path \$200 – for those at Levels 4 and beyond on the Career Path
The Practitioner Registry Achievement Awards: Career Path Levels 4 - 9 (May not receive this and a Renewal Award in the same year)	At each new level achieved individuals receive an award after 12 months of verified employment in a state licensed or registered facility.	\$250 – Level 4 \$500 – Level 5 \$750 – Level 6 \$1000 – Level 7 or 8 \$1250 – Levels 9 & 10 This award has a lifetime maximum of \$1250. (ie. If you received \$500 for Level 5 and later achieved Level 7, you would receive another \$500 award for the maximum of \$1000.)
P.D.I.A. (Professional Development Incentive Awards)	Upon completion of specific tracks of early childhood professional development/training options	\$200-\$400 Must verify employment in a licensed or registered facility for a minimum of 15 hours per week.
P.D.I.A. – Higher Education	Upon completion of early childhood college coursework each semester available in 2 options	\$1000 per semester – 6 semester credits or 9 quarter credits \$400 per semester – 2-5 semester credits
Montana Early Childhood Apprenticeship Program: Child Care Development Specialist Incentive	Upon successful completion of a early childhood apprenticeship coursework each semester	Apprentice: eligible to receive \$750/semester Mentor: eligible to receive \$500/semester Sponsor organizations: eligible to receive up to \$350/semester
P-3 and Leadership Financial Assistance Program	Upon approval of application for P-3 and Leadership Financial Assistance	Tuition and fees plus a \$400 book stipend
Child Development Associate (CDA) Assessment Fee Scholarship	Upon completion of required training and/or education and application for assessment as defined by the Council for Professional Recognition	\$425 for assessment fee \$100 for renewal of CDA Credential
National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) Accreditation Scholarship	To support NAFCC Accreditation fees for Family and Group Child Care Programs	Varies from \$300 - \$500 depending upon step in the accreditation process. \$150 for accreditation renewal
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Accreditation Scholarship	To support NAEYC Accreditation fees for Child Care Centers	Pays for full cost of accreditation steps which vary from \$200 - \$775 depending upon size of program.

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Awards Administered by the Early Childhood Services Bureau

Infant /Toddler Course P.D.I.A.	Upon completion of the 60 hour Infant/ Toddler Caregiver Education course	\$500
Infant / Toddler Continuity of Care Stipend (Available only upon completion of above course)	Upon completion of time of direct care of infants and toddlers in the same facility. Employment must be verified and the stipend requires an application	\$300 after 6 months of longevity \$500 after 1 st year of longevity \$800 after 18 months of longevity
Preschool Course P.D.I.A.	Upon completion of the 60 hour Preschool Teacher Education course	\$500
Mini-Grants to Programs	Application is through local Child Care Re- source and Referral Agency. Early Child- hood Services Bureau designates priori- ties.	Determined by Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies — up to \$1500 family/ group. Up to \$3000 /center. Funded by the Early Childhood Services Bureau.



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