



## The Early Childhood Education: P-3 & Leadership Financial Assistance Project Instructions

The Montana Early Childhood Education: P-3 and Leadership Financial Assistance Project was created with funds made available through the federal Preschool Development Grant. The goal of the project is to build early childhood teacher and leadership capacity statewide through financial assistance to individuals pursuing course work leading to the new Montana ECE: P—3 teacher endorsement or an early childhood master’s degree.

Financial assistance will be awarded through an application process **on a priority basis (see below)**. Financial assistance will pay the full cost of tuition and fees, plus a \$200 book stipend each term. The cost of required background checks for students will also be included if necessary. **These funds will be paid directly to the institution for each recipient.** This Financial Assistance Project is contingent on ongoing grant funding.

The project is a collaboration between the Office of Public Instruction, the Department of Public Health and Human Services Early Childhood Services Bureau, MSU’s Early Childhood Project, the Montana Early Childhood Higher Education Consortium, and Montana institutions of higher education that are regionally accredited. **The P-3 Financial Assistance will be available based on the following criteria:**

1. An individual must have a current Practitioner Registry Certificate at the time of application. The ECP will check your registry status online. The Practitioner Registry application is available online at [www.mtecp.org](http://www.mtecp.org). It may take several weeks to become current on the registry depending upon how quickly you verify your application information and submit documentation.
2. Applicants must work a minimum of 15 hours a week in a licensed child care center, registered family child care home, registered group child care home, Head Start program, tribal child care, or a preschool program in a public school, or K – 3 in a public school.
3. Applicants must be pursuing course work that leads to the ECE: P-3 Endorsement . It is understood that some students may not complete all of the course work necessary to complete their degree within the grant period. Priority will be given to students who have previously received this funding.
4. Applicants must be taking course work through Salish Kootenai College and include updated transcripts from SKC with each renewal application.
5. Applicants must be Montana residents. For more information regarding residency requirements visit: [mus.edu/Prepare/College/Montana\\_Residency\\_Requirements.asp](http://mus.edu/Prepare/College/Montana_Residency_Requirements.asp)

## Priorities for financial assistance awards shall be as follows:

### First Priority

- Lead teachers in targeted programs
- Assistant teachers and aides in targeted programs

### Second Priority

- Lead teacher, assistant teachers and aides who live in the targeted communities working in a state licensed registered child care program, Head Start, Early Head Start, Public School Preschool, or Tribal Child Care program
- Special Education P -12 licensed preschool teachers in targeted community school districts

### Third Priority

- Non-teachers (such as family engagement coordinators, program directors, education managers, curriculum coordinators, site supervisors, disability coordinators, specialists) working in the targeted programs pursuing an early childhood master's degree at UM (either track) or at MSU
- Non-teachers working in the targeted programs (see above) pursuing the ECE: P - 3
- Non-teachers working (see above) in other early childhood programs (as defined in Priority 2 above) in the targeted communities

### Fourth Priority

- Teachers working in a state licensed/registered child care program, Head Start, Early Head Start, Public School Preschool, or Tribal Child Care in other communities.

### Fifth Priority

- K – 3 teachers in targeted communities

## Targeted Program and Targeted Community definitions:

- Targeted Programs include all classrooms served by the Cohort Programs.
- Targeted communities include all cities/towns where Cohort Program classrooms are located.
- All targeted programs are listed on the information link about the project at [www.mtecp.org/incentives.html](http://www.mtecp.org/incentives.html)

If you have any questions, please contact Cassie Noble at 406-404-1624 ext. 305 or [cassandra.noble@montana.edu](mailto:cassandra.noble@montana.edu)

**Completed applications can be emailed to [cassandra.noble@montana.edu](mailto:cassandra.noble@montana.edu)**

**Or mailed to: Early Childhood Project—MSU**

**PO Box 173540**

**Bozeman, MT 59717**





Salish Kootenai College—Fall 2018 NEW Applicants

The Early Childhood Education: P-3 & Leadership Financial Assistance Project

Instructions: This form is ONLY for students who are enrolling in Salish Kootenai College and have NOT been previously awarded P-3 Financial Assistance. Due date: August 17, 2018 at 4 P.M.

Priority:  
PR Level:  
Exp. Date:

Please type or print using BLUE OR BLACK ink.

Personal Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ State PS# (If applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

You MUST have a current Practitioner Registry certificate to continue with this application. We will verify your current status online. The online Practitioner Registry application is posted at www.mtecp.org. It may take several weeks to receive your current certificate depending upon how quickly you verify your application information by submitting your documentation.

Have you applied for the P-3 Financial Assistance before?  Yes  No If yes, please provide dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Employment Information

Place of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a Montana state licensed or registered child care facility?  Yes  No State PV# : \_\_\_\_\_

Check the program type:

- Child care center  Family child care home  Group child care home  Head Start program  Tribal Child Care
- Preschool in a public school  K – 3 public school

Position Title:

- Teacher  Assistant Teacher  Aide

Employer Certification: (Must be completed even if you are the owner/director of the facility)

I certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is currently working 15 or more hours per week in the program listed above and that all employment information is true and correct.

Signature of Director/Owner/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position title of Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

**Education Information**

My highest education level achieved:

- High School     
  Some college     
  College Certificate     
  Associate's degree  
 Bachelor's degree     
  Master's degree

Degree or certificate name: \_\_\_\_\_ Institution name: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

I am pursuing the ECE: P-3 Endorsement through:

- Bachelor's Degree Program     
  Coursework for P-3 Endorsement     
  ECE Minor

My expected date of graduation is: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLAN OF STUDY — FALL QUARTER 2018**

Fill in each box below. All fields in the box below are required, please use the examples as a guide to complete this section.

Course Number	Course Name	Name of College	Start Date & End Date	Credits
ex: EDEC 405	Assessment in EC	Salish Kootenai College	8/24/15—12/16/15	3
<b>Total Credits:</b>				

- I have applied to this institution and have registered or intend to register for the courses indicated above.  
 I have discussed or plan to discuss my course of study with an institution contact/advisor.

Name of institution Contact/Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Contacted: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for 2018/2019?     Yes       No

Go to [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) for more information. This may help you pay for college!

I certify that all information given is true and correct.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. August 17, 2018**

*Faxed applications are not accepted.*

Email to [cassandra.noble@montana.edu](mailto:cassandra.noble@montana.edu)

Or mail to: Early Childhood Project-MSU

PO Box 173540

Bozeman, MT 59717

