

# Early Childhood Teacher Scholarship 2012 Information for Employees

**Are you an early childhood educator interested in undertaking further study to upgrade your qualification to teach kindergarten?**

**Applications Close – Friday, 12 August 2011**

The *Early Childhood Teacher Scholarship* supports staff in early childhood services with three (3) year qualifications to upgrade to the equivalent of a four (4) year early childhood teaching qualification so they can teach an approved kindergarten program.

## Purpose of the Scholarship

The Queensland Government is committed to ensuring that, by 2014, all Queensland children have access to a kindergarten program in the year prior to Prep.

The scholarship program enables staff to obtain the necessary qualifications to teach an approved kindergarten program. The program also enables services to strengthen the qualifications of their staff in order to meet the qualification requirements under the Queensland Kindergarten Funding Scheme.

## Eligibility

You may be eligible for an Early Childhood Teacher Scholarship if you meet **all** of the following criteria:

- ✓ currently employed in a licensed centre-based long day care or kindergarten service;
- ✓ hold a minimum three (3) year university qualification, and are eligible for entry into one of the specified scholarship pathways;
- ✓ not currently eligible or registered with the Queensland College of Teachers (QCT);
- ✓ not already studying or enrolled in one of the specified scholarship pathway programs;
- ✓ are an Australian or New Zealand citizen or a permanent resident of Australia, and
- ✓ have the support of your employer to undertake further study.

## Study Requirements

Scholarship recipients are required to undertake an identified study pathway based on their existing three (3) year qualification, while maintaining employment in the early childhood education and care sector.

Scholarship holders must undertake two years of continuous part-time study (four semesters) in an approved pathway.

Successful applicants in the current round of scholarships will need to commence studies in Semester 1, 2012 and will conclude at the end of Semester 2, 2013.

Some recipients may be required to undertake professional experience or practicum as part of their study program.

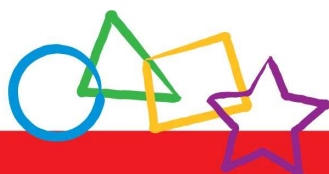
Detailed information about study pathways and requirements is provided in the *Early Childhood Teacher Scholarship Guidelines 2012* available at:

<http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/early-childhood-scholarships.html>

## Benefits of the Scholarship

DET will provide scholarship recipients with a range of support directly related to their studies, including:

- study allowance of \$500 per semester (maximum of \$2,000 during the scholarship period);
- payment of fees associated with enrolment in the study program, including student service fees;
- access to professional networks and mentors to assist you during your studies as well as provide you with an avenue to facilitate communication with and between other scholarship recipients, and
- eligibility for QCT registration upon successful completion of the course.



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Government

## Benefits for Employer

Skills and knowledge gained through the study program will benefit not only the individual but also the service in which they are currently employed.

Employers are required to support their employees who are scholarship recipients, including releasing the recipient to complete compulsory professional experience or practicum placements.

Employers will be able to seek from the department reimbursement of 50% of the scholarship recipient's usual gross salary, paid by the employer during the period that the recipient participates in the approved professional experience or practicum.

## Application Process

Applicants are required to submit a completed *Early Childhood Teacher Scholarship Application Form* and associated documents.

A section of the *Application Form* must also be completed by your current employer or Director to indicate their support for your scholarship application.

Detailed information about the application form is available in the *Applicant Guide* available at: <http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/early-childhood-scholarships.html>

## Selection Process

After the closing date for receipt of applications, short-listing will be undertaken by the department. Scholarships will be offered on a merit selection basis determined by the written application.

## Timelines

Key dates for the current round of *Early Childhood Teacher Scholarships* for studies commencing in Semester 1, 2012 are as follows:

Date	Activity
9 May 2011	Scholarship opens
<b>12 Aug 2011</b>	<b>Final date for receipt of applications</b>
15-26 Aug 2011	Selection process undertaken
9 Sep 2011	Scholarships offers released
30 Sep 2011	Due date for QTAC admissions (*QUT)
10 Feb 2012	Last day for enrolment at University of Southern Queensland
27 Feb 2012	Studies commence for Semester 1, 2012

## Further Information

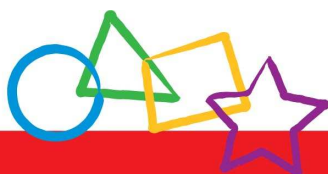
Further information about the *Early Childhood Teacher Scholarship*, including the Application Form, Applicant Guide and *Early Childhood Teacher Scholarship Guidelines 2012* are available at:

<http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/early-childhood-scholarships.html>

The *Frequently Asked Questions* Fact Sheet is available at:

<http://education.qld.gov.au/hr/recruitment/teaching/docs/scholarships/faq.doc>

Further information is also available by emailing: [earlychildhoodscholarships@deta.qld.gov.au](mailto:earlychildhoodscholarships@deta.qld.gov.au)



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