

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® South Carolina

FY23 Results

From birth to age eight a child's brain is developing faster than at any other time in their life. The experiences a child has in those first eight years provide a foundation for their future. Children who receive high quality early learning experiences are more likely to live healthier lives, earn higher wages and contribute to society.

The quality of early care and education a child receives is directly linked to the education and compensation of early educators. In South Carolina, many early educators do not have higher education degrees and many earn less than \$15 an hour. The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Program awards educational scholarships to early education professionals to address the key issues of under-education, poor compensation and high turnover in the workforce. All T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarships link increased education with higher compensation and retention. Scholarship recipients and their sponsoring early care and education programs share the cost.

In South Carolina, **South Carolina Endeavors** administers the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Program. In FY23, the program helped **464** early education professionals increase their education. T.E.A.C.H. recipients show powerful dedication to remaining in their professions with turnover rates far less than the national average. This year alone, **17,047** of South Carolina's children were cared for in settings who participated in T.E.A.C.H.

Education

- Recipients on associate degree scholarships completed an average of **12.44** credits per contract.
- Recipients on bachelor's degree scholarships completed an average of **14.81** credits per contract.
- Recipients in South Carolina completed more than **2,554** credit hours.
- The average grade point average (GPA) for a recipient on an associate degree scholarship was **3.22**.
- The average GPA for a recipient on a bachelor's degree scholarship was **3.55**.

Compensation

- The average hourly wage of a teacher on a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship was **\$12.93**.
- The average increase in earnings for a recipient on an associate degree scholarship was **4.22%**.
- The average increase in earnings for a recipient on a bachelor's degree scholarship was **6.78%**.

Retention

- For associate degree scholarship recipients, the average retention rate was **96.05%**.
- For bachelor's degree scholarship recipients, the average retention rate was **94.83%**.

Demographics

- **65.3%** of recipients worked with 3-5-year-old children.
- **58.6%** of recipients worked with children less than 3 years old.
- **55.6%** of recipients were people of color and/or Latinx, and an overwhelming majority of all recipients were women.
- Recipients attended one of **16** community colleges or **7** universities offering early childhood degree programs in South Carolina

Personal Impact

- In a survey of recipients, **100%** said they would recommend T.E.A.C.H. to their peers, and **100%** of their employers would recommend T.E.A.C.H.

The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Program is heralded by experts in the field as a national leader in creating solutions for early childhood education workforce challenges. National outcomes can be found in the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® and Child Care WAGE\$® 2022-2023 Annual National Program Report.





T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® South Carolina FY23 Voices From the Field



As a single parent trying to work full-time, manage school, and maintain life was complicated and stressful at times. T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® allowed me time for school and accommodated a work/school balance. This was the only reason I was able to continue my education and not give up. I never thought I would make it here, but I am thankful I did. I have become a better teacher because I was learning and working in the field. I was able to take things from school and implement them at work immediately which allowed me not to forget them.

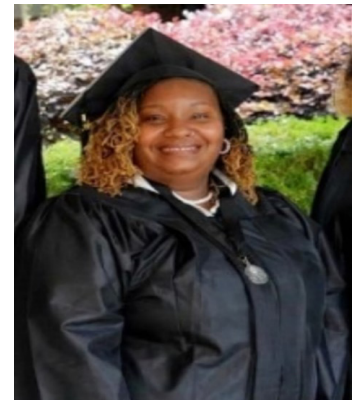
- Jamiee Scott, T.E.A.C.H. Graduate, Midlands Technical College

I was introduced to the T.E.A.C.H. program by my director, Mrs. Lashondia Wright; she has encouraged me to further my studies in Early Childhood Education. She has always stated that we could do this, and she was right.

T.E.A.C.H. has allowed me to attend school on scholarship, while still being able to work full time at Wright Way Child Development Center and maintain being a parent to my two boys. Since I was given this great opportunity, I knew I had to study hard and not take this opportunity for granted. My dedication allowed me to see this through. I have been placed on the President's List and the Dean's List several times during my educational journey making my family, director, co-workers, friends, and especially myself proud of my accomplishments.

The knowledge that I've gained in my ECE classes and my prior work experiences have given me the confidence to successfully apply what I've learned into my class, students, and co-workers. T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® has allowed me to become a better and more experienced employee, co-worker, and teacher all around. I plan to continue working in the education field as an Early Childhood Education teacher. Without the support of T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®, my director and family none of this would be possible.

- Shameeka Barnes, T.E.A.C.H. Graduate, Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College



South Carolina Endeavors

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