

## FY22 Results

Before first grade, a child may spend more than 10,000 hours in child care. Research tells us that children enrolled in high-quality early care and education programs in the first five years of life are more likely to be in a highly skilled job or college at age 21. Ensuring quality early care and education for children today creates a viable workforce for the future and a strong American economy in the long run.



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 FY22, the program helped **537** 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, **19,174** 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 **12.99** credits per contract.
- Recipients on bachelor's degree scholarships completed an average of **14.35** credits per contract.
- Recipients in South Carolina completed more than **2,714** credit hours.
- The average grade point average (GPA) for a recipient on an associate degree scholarship was **3.2**.
- The average GPA for a recipient on a bachelor's degree scholarship was **3.2**.

### Compensation

- The average hourly wage of a teacher on a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship was **\$11.70**.
- The average increase in earnings for a recipient on an associate degree scholarship was **6.54%**.
- The average increase in earnings for a recipient on a bachelor's degree scholarship was **12.63%**.

### Retention

- For associate degree scholarship recipients, the average retention rate was **94%**.
- For bachelor's degree scholarship recipients, the average retention rate was **92.5%**.

### Demographics

- **52.5%** of recipients worked with 3-5-year-old children.
- **52.3%** of recipients worked with children less than 3 years old.
- **57.7%** 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 **6** universities offering early childhood degree programs in South Carolina.

### Personal Impact

- In a survey of recipients, **93%** said they would recommend T.E.A.C.H. to their peers, and **100%** of their employers would recommend T.E.A.C.H.

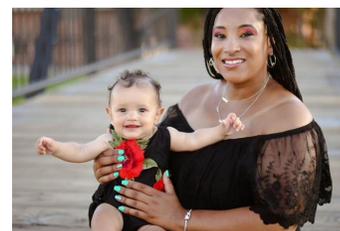
The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Program is heralded by experts in the field as a national leader in creating solutions for early childhood education workforce challenges. National outcomes can be found in the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® and Child Care WAGE\$® 2021-2022 Annual National Program Report.



"T.E.A.C.H. is a program that I am eternally grateful for. I started my college experience in 2005 and stopped in 2010 without finishing my degree. T.E.A.C.H. has allowed me to fill in the holes necessary to work toward getting my bachelor's and make a difference in the lives of the children I work with daily. Through T.E.A.C.H. program, I have been able to explore the possibility of taking classes that will put me on track to become a director someday. I have learned about new policies, procedures, updated laws and learned about the early education world through the eyes of a different instructor. Most importantly, I have found a cohort of other educators with a similar education philosophy, passion for education and a love for all children. They built me up when I was down, expanded my knowledge of all things early childhood, and brought new insights to old tricks."

**– Jamie Hampton, T.E.A.C.H. Graduate**

"I began my teaching journey in January 2019. I started working with the afterschool program at Trenholm Road United Methodist Church Preschool. I also worked mornings as substitute teacher at the preschool. I quickly realized I wanted to pursue a career as an early childhood educator. A few months later I had the opportunity to work full time with 2-year-old children. My director explained that I also had the opportunity to participate in the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship program. My bachelor's degree is in retail with emphasis in fashion merchandising, so I knew that I would benefit from gaining more knowledge that would help me become a better teacher. I completed my application to participate the T.E.A.C.H. program, and I applied to be a part time student at Midlands Technical College. After completing all the necessary requirements, I was able to begin taking courses. The first course I took was ECD 101. I learned valuable information that I could use in my classroom. I learned about classroom arrangement, lesson planning, theorists, developmentally appropriate practices and more. I realized that I would continue to gain expertise that would help me in my classroom. My second semester I took two courses and I walked away from that experience feeling more confident in my abilities to be an impactful educator. I currently take two classes each semester and I also take courses during the summer. I had my first child in December of last year. I was concerned about taking a break from my courses. It was important for me to continue going to school so I could further my career. I decided to continue taking courses during my pregnancy and to take only one course after my daughter was born. I strive to make sure that I am putting forth the maximum effort with all assignments. I knew it would be harder to take courses while I had a newborn, but was able to complete all my schoolwork successfully. I resumed taking two classes again the next semester. It takes hard work and dedication to work full time and take courses as a new mom. I continue to sharpen my skills as a teacher, and I can make extra money that helps me support my family. I encouraged one of my coworkers to begin the T.E.A.C.H. program as well. It feels great to help others further their career through education. I am excited about my future, and I have truly enjoyed being a part of the T.E.A.C.H. scholarship program."



**– Zenia McCants, T.E.A.C.H. Scholar**



"I am beginning my second year of coursework with T.E.A.C.H. I completed two years of college immediately after high school; but then life happened, and I left school before completing my degree. I've dreamed of going back to school for many years, and T.E.A.C.H. has made that possible. I work as a 4K assistant teacher at a child care center, and I can already tell that my decision to go back to school is having an impact on my children. I am more able to select age-appropriate materials and activities and to change those activities to meet the needs of all the children in my care. I also feel more confident when talking to parents and co-workers. One unanticipated benefit of continuing education has been improving my computer skills, which is necessary for working and communicating in our modern, technology-driven world. I didn't realize how much I had forgotten (or how much has changed) until I took my first web-based course this past fall. Getting closer to obtaining my associate degree has opened a world of possibilities for me. T.E.A.C.H. has renewed my enthusiasm for my job and helped me look to the future with excitement and hope."

**– Alicia Shealy, T.E.A.C.H. Scholar**

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