



DHS Office of Child Care

Rhode Island Department of Human Services

Office of Child Care

Early Childhood Educator Workforce Development Pathways Resource Guide

Disclaimer

DHS strives to ensure information in this presentation is as up to date and as accurate as possible but does not intend this information to serve as a stand-alone resource for all ECE workforce development opportunities.



This presentation includes information for early childhood educators about higher education pathways, professional development opportunities, and scholarship opportunities. Potential uses:

- **Educators:** Identify potential programs for your professional growth
- **Center Directors/Education Coordinators:** Inform your teams about career advancement opportunities
- **Higher education/PDTA partners:** Understand offerings of other partners to ensure ongoing alignment across pathways



Table of Contents

1

**RI Early Childhood
Education System Acronyms
& Definitions List**

2

**Workforce Development
Pathways Continuum**

3

**RI Professional Development,
Training & Technical
Assistance**

4

**RI Early Childhood Education
Training Program**

5

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood RI

6

For More Information



RI DHS Early Childhood Education Systems Acronyms & Definitions List

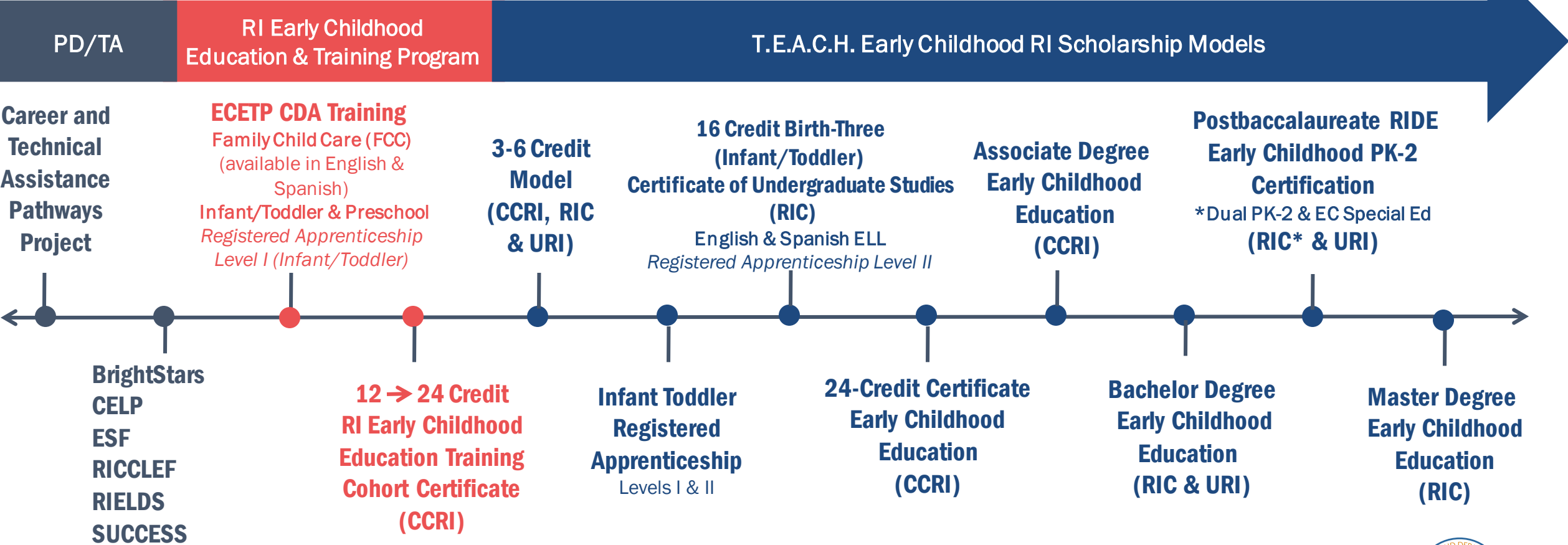
List of common acronyms & definitions found in this document.

- BrightStars: [RI's Tiered Quality Rating Improvement System](#)
- CCAP: [Child Care Assistance Program](#)
- CCRI: [Community College of Rhode Island](#)
- CDA: [Child Development Associate](#)
- CELP: [Center for Early Learning Professionals](#)
- EC Special Ed. C.G.S: [Early Child Special Education Continuing Graduate Studies](#)
- ESF: [RI Education Support Fund](#)
- MLL: [Multilingual Learners](#)
- PK-2: [RIDE Early Childhood Education Certification \(Preschool-Grade 2\)](#)
- RA: [Registered Apprentice\(ship\)](#)
- RICCLEF: [RI Child Care and Early Learning Facilities Fund-LISC](#)
- RIC: [Rhode Island College](#)
- RIECETP: [RI Early Childhood Education Training Program](#)
- RIELDS: [RI Early Learning and Development Standards](#)
- RIDE: [RI Department of Education](#)
- RI Pre-K: [RI Prekindergarten Programs](#)
- SUCCESS: [RI Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation](#)
- TEACH: [T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood®](#)
- URI: [University of Rhode Island](#)



DHS Sponsored Professional Development & Technical Assistance (PD/TA)

DHS pathways provide early childhood educators and programs access to free or low-cost training and higher education opportunities designed for the working professional and aimed at supporting high quality classrooms and career advancement starting with PD/TA through Master's level.



DHS Professional Development, Training & Technical Assistance

Overview of RI DHS Professional Development, Training & Technical Assistance for Early Childhood Educators

BrightStars: BrightStars is Rhode Island's Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement System (TQRIS). A TQRIS is a method to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early care, education and school-age settings. BrightStars helps early learning, education and school-age programs that care for children learn about best practices and apply them to the care children receive.

RI Child Care and Early Learning Facilities Fund- LISC: The Rhode Island Child Care and Early Learning Facilities Fund (RICCELFF) is an innovative public-private partnership dedicated to expanding access to quality child care and early education in low-income communities throughout Rhode Island.


CELP: The Center for Early Learning Professionals (CELP) is DHS's workforce development hub for the birth-to-age-five community. The center offers innovative professional development services and training and technical assistance to educators and programs in continuous quality improvement. Works collaborative with BrightStars and other DHS-funded community partners to coordinate the delivery of high-quality services.

RIELDS: The Rhode Island Early Learning and Development Standards are RI's nationally recognized birth-5 developmental framework that articulate shared expectations for what young children should know and be able to do. Further, they provide a common language for measuring progress toward achieving specific learning goals.

Career and Technical Assistance Pathways Project: This project is designed to create a bridge from high school into Early Childhood Education and Career Opportunities, by developing partnerships with TEACH counselors, DHS Licensed –CCAP Early Childcare Providers and local High School Career and Technical Education programs with early childhood education and training options.

SUCCESS: SUCCESS (Supporting Children's Competencies in Emotional and Social Skills). The Early Childhood Collaborative at E.P.I Bradley Hospital provides Child Focused Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation services, Professional Development in Reflective Practice & Supervision, and Coordination of Care Teams to DHS-licensed ECE programs.

Education Support Fund (ESF): Education and Support Fund is part of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the RI Department of Human Services and SEIU that provides Professional Developmental and Training and Technical Assistance to family child care providers who participate in the CCAP program.



Rhode Island Early Childhood Education Training Program (RIECETP)

RIECETEP at CCRI is a comprehensive education and training program that strengthens the knowledge, competencies and skills of both seasoned and novice early childhood educators by providing formal academic coursework, onsite mentoring/coaching, and academic tutoring using the cohort model to optimize the learning experience for the adult student.

RI Early Childhood Education Training Program (RIECETP)

ECETP is a free comprehensive education and training program that strengthens the knowledge and skills of both seasoned and novice early childhood educators by providing formal academic coursework, onsite mentoring/coaching, and academic tutoring using the cohort model to optimize the learning experience for the adult student.

Eligibility	Potential Applicants
<p>Employed for a minimum of 20 hours per week at a DHS licensed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Center based or family child care program• CCAP provider• BrightStars rated program	<p>This pathway is ideal for early childhood educators interested in career advancement and hold one or more of the following credentials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Highschool Diploma or GED• Some college credits• Undergraduate or graduate degree



RI Early Childhood Education Training Program—CDA

RI Early Childhood Education Training Program—Child Development Associate (CDA)

Models	This free program is ideal for supporting educators with little or no formal higher educational experience in early childhood education to obtain the Child Development Associate (CDA) Certificate, a nationally recognized early childhood credential. Available models include Infant/Toddler, Preschool or Family Child Care. Students who continue to the 12 and 24 credit pathways may receive credit for prior learning for CDA completion.	
Enrollment/Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fall, Spring & Summer (as needed)• Complete RIECETP application	
Meeting Structure	Online (In-person orientation required)	
Length	15 Weeks	
Coursework/ Program Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Google Docs Training• CDA Modules Training• Portfolio Preparation Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CDA Exam Preparation Support• Educators can earn up to 45 hours of DHS (CELP) approved PD for program attendance and assignments
Educator Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training is free• Free CDA materials & workbooks• Free Chromebook• CDA Exam fees + 1 renewal fees via TEACH	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tutoring & TA available in Spanish• Eligible for up to 6 college credits• Educator receives \$100 T.E.A.C.H. Bonus upon receipt of CDA Credential & submission to T.E.A.C.H.
How to Apply	https://ccri.edu/hmns/RIECETP_CDA_TRAINING.html	
BrightStars Alignment	Completion may position educator to meet BrightStars Level 3 Teacher Qualifications. Educators with an Infant/Toddler CDA may be qualified for employment in Early Head Start.	

RI Early Childhood Education Training Program—12 credit

RI Early Childhood Education Training Program—12 Credit Cohort

Overview	This free program is ideal for first-time or returning students looking to advance their skills and take the first step toward obtaining a college degree. In this cohort pathway educators receive individual guidance and onsite mentoring/coaching, and as an official CCRI, college student have access to CCRI student services.	
Enrollment/Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annually (Fall) • Prerequisite: must enroll in CCRI & complete Accuplacer test (no min. score requirement) • Complete RIECETP application 	
Meeting Structure	Online (In-person orientation required)	
Length	4 consecutive semesters	
Coursework/ Program Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMNS-2100: Child Growth & Development • HMNS-2150: Parent & Child Relations • HMNS-2120: Curriculum for Young Children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMNS- 2140: Guiding Children's Behavior • Participation onsite coaching/mentoring • Must maintain a C grade average
Educator Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Textbooks/E-books • Monthly onsite mentoring/coaching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to CCRI Student Services • Tutoring & TA available in Spanish
How to Apply	https://www.ccri.edu/hmns/RIECETP.html	
BrightStars Alignment	Completion may position educators for BrightStars Level 4 Teacher Qualifications Requirements. Completion may position program leadership to meet Level 4 Program Leadership Qualifications Requirements.	

RI Early Childhood Education Training Program—24 credit

RI Early Childhood Education Training Program—24 Credit Cohort

Overview	<p>This cohort model is ideal for students who have completed the ECETP 12-credit program. Students who complete this pathway earn the CCRI Certificate in Early Childhood Education and are invited to participate in the annual CCRI graduation ceremony. Students who start with the CDA and continue through the 24 certificate are close to halfway to completing their associate's degree and are encouraged to consider the TEACH program.</p>	
Enrollment/Eligibility	<p>Prerequisite: must complete RIECETP 12 credit cohort</p>	
Meeting Structure	<p>Online (In-person orientation required)</p>	
Length	<p>4 Consecutive Semesters</p>	
Coursework/ Program Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMNS-1010: Introduction to Helping & Human Services • HMNS-1080: Health, Nutrition & The Young Child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMNS-2070: Characteristics & Needs of Special Populations • HMNS-1210: Field Experience & Seminar I/Child Development • Must maintain a C grade point average
Educator Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuition Free • Free Textbooks/E-books • Access to CCRI Student Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutoring & TA available in Spanish • Monthly onsite mentoring/coaching
How to Apply	<p>https://www.ccri.edu/hmns/RIECETP.html</p>	
ECCE System Alignment	<p>May prepare educators for BrightStars Level 4 Teacher Qualifications Requirements. Educators who hold a Bachelor's Degree and complete this program may be eligible to meet BrightStars Level 5 requirements. May positions program leadership to meet Level 5 Program Leadership Qualifications Requirements, if they hold a Bachelor's Degree.</p> <p><i>Please note this does not meet the training requirements for the RIDE Teacher's Assistant Certification.</i></p>	

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood RI Scholarship

The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Program provides opportunities for teachers to complete higher education course work in early childhood education while providing sponsoring childcare programs an opportunity to develop their workforce. This unique scholarship program may help child care educators advance their career and role in the profession by pursuing a degree and higher education opportunities in the field of early childhood education.

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood RI Scholarship

The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Program provides opportunities for child care workers to complete higher education course work in early childhood education while providing sponsoring childcare providers an opportunity to develop their workforce.

Eligibility	Potential Applicants	What to do before applying?
<p>Employed for 25-30 hours per week at a DHS-licensed and T.E.A.C.H. Participating Employer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Center-based or family child care program CCAP provider BrightStars rated program 	<p>This pathway is ideal for early childhood educators interested in career advancement and hold one or more of the following credentials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High school Diploma or GED Some college credits Undergraduate or graduate degree 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk to your employer. Discuss interested in T.E.A.C.H. and what the commitments of the program are. Explore your college options. T.E.A.C.H. supports enrollment at CCRI, RIC & URI. Find out if you meet the eligibility criteria. Contact T.E.A.C.H. to talk with a counselor.



T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood RI—3-6 Credit Pathway Scholarship

3-6 Credit Pathway

Overview	Designed to support a variety of needs of teachers and program leadership such as those who are interested in increasing qualifications to meet BrightStars or leadership requirements, to meet pre-admission requirements, continue or to complete their education.	
Enrollment/Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Application • Complete College/University Application 	
Meeting Structure	College/University & Class Specific (CCRI, RIC or URI)	
Length	Self-paced	
Employer Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review/Sign TEACH Scholarship Agreement • Provide paid educator release time (employer reimbursed by TEACH) • 5% cost of tuition 	
Program Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% DHS Funded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% Employer • 5% Educator • 90% Cost of Books Reimbursed by T.E.A.C.H. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$100 Miscellaneous stipend • Maintain employment for 6 mos • Receive \$250 completion bonus
How to Apply	https://teach-ri.org/application-process/	
BrightStars Alignment	Completion may position educator to meet BrightStars Level 3 Teacher Qualifications. Completion may position director's & education coordinators to meet Level 4 Program Leadership Qualifications (if additional qualifications have also been met).	

DHS Infant Toddler Registered Apprenticeship-Levels I&II

Infant Toddler Registered Apprenticeship- Level I & II

Overview	<p>The DHS Registered Apprenticeship (RA) is designed as a career pathway where individuals can obtain paid work experience, related instruction (higher education), and a stackable, portable, nationally-recognized credential. Employers can develop and prepare their future workforce.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level I: CCRI RIECETP Infant Toddler CDA Training Program (more information available on slide 7) • Level 2: RIC 16 Credit Infant Toddler Certificate (more information available on slide 13) 	
Enrollment/Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employed in a licensed CCAP program for a minimum of 25 hours per week as an Infant Toddler Teacher's Assistant (TA) or Lead Teacher • Complete RA Application Package • Complete Program of Study Application (ECETP CDA or RIC- Non-Degree Registration Form) 	
Meeting Structure	<p>College/University & Class Specific- CCRI (online, 1 meeting in person) RIC (hybrid)</p>	
Length	<p>Varies based on level and individual participation, the average time to complete is 1.5-2 years.</p>	
Employer Expectations & Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodate on-site coaching and mentoring • Sustain salary increase • Reduction in staff turnover 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive DHS \$1,000 sign on & DLT completion bonuses • May be Eligible for a RI Tax incentive. • Strengthens delivery of high-quality infant toddler classroom
Student Expectations & Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete required and related professional development • Participate in on-site coaching & mentoring • Participate in LearnERS (Level 1) • Maintain contact with RA counselor • Receive two 1.5% permanent wage increases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free tuition, training, and professional development • Transfer Credits available (CCRI, RIC & URI—specifics are IHE dependent) • Earn up to 6 college credits for CDA Credential (if continuing at CCRI) • Maintain employment for 1 year upon pathway completion
How to Apply	<p>https://teach-ri.org/dhs-it-ra/</p>	
BrightStars Alignment	<p>Level I RA may position educators to meet BrightStars Level 3 Teacher Qualifications. Level II RA may position educators to meet BrightStars Level 4 Teacher Qualifications. Educators with an Infant/Toddler CDA may be qualified for employment in Early Head Start center-based settings.</p>	

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood RI– RIC Birth-3 Certificate of Undergraduate Studies

RIC Birth-3 Certificate of Undergraduate Studies (English/Spanish)

Overview	Designed for educators or leadership looking to improve their expertise in Infant/Toddler Development and meet BrightStars educator and leadership qualifications. Courses in this cohort model are offered in either English and/or Spanish with the goal of ensuring a highly qualified Infant Toddler workforce through increasing knowledge, skills and competencies.	
Enrollment/Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review/Sign T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Application • Register with RIC 	
Meeting Structure/Length	Hybrid (75% online & 25% in person)- 5 semesters	
Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECED 310: Contextualizing Infant/Toddler Education (3 credits) • ECED 312: I/T Cognitive Development & Learning (3 credits) • ECED 314: I/T Social Emotional Development (3 credits) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECED 410: Field Experience I (4 credits) • ECED 202: Early Childhood Development (3 credits) • ELL Cohort Only: ELS 180: English Language Support Workshop (5 credits)
Employer Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review/Sign T.E.A.C.H Scholarship Agreement • Provide paid educator release time (employer reimbursed by TEACH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% cost of tuition • Provide s (\$450) or raise (1.5%) upon certificate attainment
Program Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% DHS Funded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% Employer • 5% Educator • 10% FCC Owner/Educator • 90% Cost of Books Reimbursed by T.E.A.C.H. • \$100 Stipend per semester 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain employment for 1 year • Access to RIC Student Services • Coaching & Mentoring
More Information	https://www.ric.edu/academics/undergraduate-programs/undergraduate-education-programs#early-childhood-education (scroll down)	
How to Apply	https://teach-ri.org/application-process/	
BrightStars Alignment	Completion may position educator to meet Level 4 BrightStars Qualifications- particularly Infant/Toddler Educators. May prepare Educators with a CDA to meet the qualifications for Early Head Start center based educator teaching positions.	

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood RI—CCRI ECE 24 Credit Certificate Scholarship

CCRI 24 Credit Certificate Model (non-cohort)

Overview	Model designed for or teachers or educators looking to obtain ECE credits to meet BrightStars standards or further their education	
Enrollment/ Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Application • Rolling Admissions • Apply to CCRI & enroll in the Early Childhood Certificate Program (prerequisites may apply) 	
Meeting Structure	College/University & Class Specific (CCRI, RIC or URI)	
Length	Self-paced (minimum 9 credits per year, maximum 15)	
Employer Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review/Sign T.E.A.C.H Scholarship Agreement • Provide paid educator release time (employer reimbursed by TEACH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% cost of tuition • Provide Annual Bonus (\$450) or raise (1.5%) for participation
Program Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% DHS Funded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% Employer • 5% Educator • 10% FCC Owner/Educator • 90% Cost of Books Reimbursed by T.E.A.C.H. • \$100 Stipend per semester 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain employment for 1 year upon completion • Receive \$200 Annual Bonus (In addition to above employer issued bonus and/or raise) • Receive \$200 completion bonus • Access to CCRI Student Services
More Information	https://catalog.ccri.edu/programs-study/human-services/education-early-childhood-development-aa/	
How to Apply	https://teach-ri.org/application-process/	
ECCE System Alignment	Completion may prepare educators, directors, and education Coordinators to meet BrightStars Level 5 teacher qualifications, and program leadership qualifications.	

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood RI—CCRI ECE Associate's Degree

Early Childhood Education Associate's Degree

Overview	Model designed for those interested in pursuing an Associate's Degree in Early Childhood Education. Educators or leadership with some college experience are the ideal candidates. Educators without experience are encouraged to consider RIECETP as a first step.	
Enrollment/ Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Application • Apply to CCRI (ACCUPLACER exam required) 	
Meeting Structure	College/University & Class Specific (CCRI)	
Length	Self-paced (minimum 9 credits per year, maximum 15 credits per year)	
Employer Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review/Sign T.E.A.C.H Scholarship Agreement • Provide paid educator release time (employer reimbursed by T.E.A.C.H.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% cost of tuition • Provide Annual Bonus (\$450) or raise (1.5%) for participation
Program Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% DHS Funded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% Employer } 10% FCC Owner/Educator • 5% Educator • 90% Cost of Books Reimbursed by T.E.A.C.H. • \$100 Stipend per semester 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain employment for 1 year • Receive \$585 Annual Bonus (In addition to above employer issued bonus and/or raise) • Access to CCRI Student Services
More Information	https://catalog.ccri.edu/programs-study/human-services/education-early-childhood-development-aa/	
How to Apply	https://teach-ri.org/application-process/	
BrightStars Alignment	May prepare educators for BrightStars Level 4 Teacher Qualifications Requirements. Level 5 for Family Child Care. Educators with an Associate's Degree may be eligible for employment in Early Head Start, Head Start & RI-PreK. May prepare Directors & Education Coordinators to meet BrightStars Level 3 Program Leadership Requirements.	

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood RI—Bachelor's Degree (RIC & URI)

Early Childhood Education Bachelor's Degree

Overview	Model designed for those interested in pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education. Educators or leadership with an associate's degree are ideal candidates.	
Enrollment/ Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Application • Complete application to RIC or URI (prerequisites may apply) 	
Meeting Structure	College/University & Class Specific	
Length	Self-paced (minimum 9 credits per year, maximum 15 credits per year)	
Employer Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review/Sign T.E.A.C.H Scholarship Agreement • Provide paid educator release time (employer reimbursed by TEACH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% cost of tuition • Provide Annual Bonus (\$450) or raise (1.5%) for participation • Sign-on bonus available for NEW Employer Sponsors
Program Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% DHS Funded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% Employer • 5% Educator • 90% Cost of Books Reimbursed by T.E.A.C.H. • \$100 Stipend per semester 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$785 Annual Bonus (In addition to above employer issued bonus and/or raise) • Maintain employment for 1 year • Access to College/University Student Services
More Information	RIC: https://www.ric.edu/department-directory/department-elementary-education/institute-early-childhood-teaching-and-learning URI: https://web.uri.edu/education/academics/early-childhood-education-b-s/	
How to Apply	https://teach-ri.org/application-process/	
BrightStars Alignment	Completion may prepare educators for BrightStars Level 5 Teacher Qualifications Requirements. Educators with a Bachelor's Degree may be eligible for employment in Early Head Start, Head Start & RI-PreK.	

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood RI– URI ECE Post-Baccalaureate Certificate (RIDE PK-2)

URI Accelerated Early Childhood Education Post- Baccalaureate Certificate (RIDE PK-2)

Overview	This model was designed for employees with a Bachelor's Degree interested in pursuing Early Childhood Education Certification (Pre-K-grade 2) through the RI Department of Education at URI.	
Enrollment/ Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Application • Hold Bachelor's Degree • Apply to URI (prerequisites may apply) 	
Meeting Structure	Accelerated online asynchronous cohort model	
Employer Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review/Sign T.E.A.C.H Scholarship Agreement • Provide paid educator release time (employer reimbursed by TEACH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% cost of tuition • Provide Annual Bonus (\$450) or raise (1.5%) for participation
Program Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% DHS Funded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% Employer } 10% FCC Owner/Educator • 5% Educator } • 90% Cost of Books Reimbursed by T.E.A.C.H. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$785 Annual Bonus (In addition to above employer issued bonus and/or raise) • Maintain employment for 1 year • \$100 Stipend per semester • Access to URI student services
More Information	https://www.uri.edu/programs/program/early-childhood-education-post-baccalaureate-certificate/	
How to Apply	https://teach-ri.org/application-process/	
BrightStars Alignment	May prepare educator to meet BrightStars Level 5 Teacher Qualifications for Center Based educators., May prepare Directors & Educators for BrightStars Level 5 Program Leadership Qualifications. Educators with this certification may be eligible for employment in Head Start and RI-PreK.	

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood RI– RIC Post-Bac RIDE Pre-K-2 & ECE Special Ed Certification

RIC Post Baccalaureate RIDE Pre-K-2 & Early Childhood Special Education Certification

Overview	This model was designed for educators and program leadership with a Bachelor's Degree interested in pursuing Early Childhood Education Certification (Pre-K-grade 2) and Early Childhood Special Education Certification through RIDE.	
Enrollment/ Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Application • Hold Bachelor's Degree • Apply to RIC (prerequisites may apply) 	
Meeting Structure	Online peer learning format with 2 classes per semester (estimated program completion- 1.5 years)	
Employer Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review/Sign T.E.A.C.H Scholarship Agreement • Provide paid educator release time (employer reimbursed by TEACH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% cost of tuition • Provide Annual Bonus (\$450) or raise (1.5%) for participation
Program Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% DHS Funded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% Employer • 5% Educator • 10% FCC Owner/Educator • 90% Cost of Books Reimbursed by T.E.A.C.H. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$785 Annual Bonus (In addition to above employer issued bonus and/or raise) • Maintain employment for 1 year • \$100 Stipend per semester • Access to URI student services
More Information	ECE: https://www.ric.edu/departments-directory/departments-directory-elementary-education/departments-directory-elementary-education-graduate-programs/early-childhood-education-med ECE Special Ed: https://www.ric.edu/departments-directory/departments-directory-special-education/departments-directory-special-education-graduate-programs/special-education-med	
How to Apply	https://teach-ri.org/application-process/	
BrightStars Alignment	May prepare educator to meet BrightStars Level 5 Teacher Qualifications for Center Based educators., May prepare Directors & Educators for BrightStars Level 5 Program Leadership Qualifications. Educators with this certification may be eligible for employment in Head Start and RI-PreK.	

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood RI–ECE Master's Degree

Master's Degree

Overview	This model designed for early childhood educators and program leadership who hold a Bachelor's Degree and are interested in pursuing graduate-level studies in early childhood education at RIC.	
Enrollment/ Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Application (limited scholarships available) • Employer Agreement • Apply to RIC (Prerequisites may apply) 	
Meeting Structure	College/University & Class Specific	
Length	Self-paced (minimum 9 credits per year, maximum 15 credits per year)	
Employer Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review/Sign T.E.A.C.H Scholarship Agreement • Provide paid educator release time (employer reimbursed by TEACH) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide flexible paid time off if student is program leader (employer reimbursed by TEACH) • 5% cost of tuition
Program Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% DHS Funded <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5% Employer } 10% FCC Owner/Educator • 5% Educator • 90% Cost of Books Reimbursed by T.E.A.C.H. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$100 Stipend per semester • \$785 Completion Bonus • Maintain employment for 1 year • Access to College/University Student Services
More Information	https://www.ric.edu/departments-directory/departments-elementary-education/departments-elementary-education-graduate-programs/early-childhood-education-med	
How to Apply	https://teach-ri.org/application-process/	
BrightStars Alignment	May position educators & program leadership to meet Level 5 BrightStars requirements. May position directors and educators	

Testimonials

"TEACH has been a lifesaver, as a single mother who is just trying to break a generation cycle and become the first person in my family to graduate with a bachelor's degree. I want my son to look up to his mom, and continue his education, and obtain a degree. I just want to say that the TEACH program has made a big difference in my life and my future without it I don't think that I will be in the process of obtaining my Bachelor's Degree, the first in my family!"

"This program has helped me tremendously to become a better teacher and show my own girls that we can accomplish so much, all we have to do is try our best even on our hard days!"

"I have become a **more mindful educator**. I am more aware of developmental needs and differences and how to accommodate them in the classroom. I am **more empathetic to the whole context of the child**, not just what I see."

"We have seen an increased buy in to their classroom, a feeling of ownership. We want all of our teachers to have this feeling. We found that through this program they have been able to understand what that means. We also have noticed that the staff who participated are **more confident with their teaching and learning abilities and want to continue to the next step, go on and get their Associates or Bachelors in ECE.**"

"The CDA training helped me get familiar with the RIELDS and why they are useful and important to keep in mind when planning activities and lessons for your classroom."

"TEACH would enable me to attend school, still work, and not have to put as much strain on my finances. I was able to complete three and a half years of school for less than \$1,000 out of pocket. It has been a dream partnership and I can honestly say that TEACH changed my life."

"I was able to work and **create my own schedule** at the daycare, and it didn't affect my position, I could stay lead. I was able to work and go to school on my time. I didn't have to worry about getting the funds for books and supplies, gas money, or tuition bills."





For More Information

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Workforce Development Pathways
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