

TEACH Scholarship or Dual Training Grant?

Which Minnesota child care funding option fits your needs?

TEACH Scholarship

Best for

Individual early childhood or school-age care educators. Includes fields of early childhood and school-age care.

Purpose

Helps early childhood and school-age care educators earn college credits/degrees and advance in the field.

Covers

Tuition, fees, books, travel and additional supports.

How it works

TEACH pays the college directly for tuition. Educator and employer each pay a small portion of costs. Employer provides release time and a small bonus or wage increase.

Best fit

An early childhood educator who wants a credential/degree.

More details →

[TEACH Scholarship, Child Care Aware of Minnesota](#)



Dual Training Grant (DTG)

Best for

Employers with a [dual-training program](#) to support their employees/trainees. Includes fields of early childhood, school-age care and culinary supervisor.

Purpose

Helps employers fund earn-and-learn training for employees in high-need child care occupations.

Covers

Tuition, fees, books, materials and funds for trainee support costs, like travel.

How it works

Employer pays training provider directly. Employer requests reimbursement from the grant. Requires a formal dual-training program with formal coursework and on-the-job training.

Best fit

An employer creating a structured, dual-training path to help employees advance their careers while earning industry degrees, certifications and credentials.

More details →

[Dual Training Grant, Minnesota Office of Higher Education](#)



In summary

- **Apply for a TEACH Scholarship** if you're an *early childhood or school-age educator* who wants help paying for college credits, a child development associate (CDA) credential or a degree and you're working in a licensed/certified program or licensed family child care provider. It's the better fit for an individual educator.
- **Apply for the Dual Training Grant** if you're an *employer (or organization representing employers)* building a formal earn-and-learn program with on-the-job training plus related technical instruction for employees. It's the better fit for an organization, not a single worker applying on their own.

Which is right for me?

1. Are you an individual early childhood or school-age care worker trying to pay for college, a CDA or other credential for yourself?
 - Yes → **TEACH scholarship**
 - No → go to 2
2. Are you an employer or part of an employer-led training program?
 - Yes → go to 3
 - No → **TEACH scholarship** is more likely the right fit
3. Do you have a formal earn-and-learn setup with on-the-job training plus related instruction?
 - Yes → **Dual Training Grant**
 - No → **TEACH scholarship** if you're the employee, or neither if you're not in child care/training setup.

If you're an early childhood educator:

- ➔ Choose **TEACH** if your goal is education/credential funding for yourself.
- ➔ Choose **Dual Training Grant** if your employer is interested in setting up a structured training path that helps staff advance their careers while earning industry credentials.

Can I use the TEACH Scholarship and Dual Training Grant?

Yes, but it's complicated.

To utilize both funding sources, the employer and the individual receiving the training would need to complete both application processes and comply with each program's funding requirements, reporting obligations and related procedures.

Resources for educators and employers

[TEACH Scholarship,
Child Care Aware of Minnesota](https://childcareawaremn.org/providers/grants-and-scholarships/teach-scholarships/)



([childcareawaremn.org/providers/
grants-and-scholarships/teach-
scholarships/](https://childcareawaremn.org/providers/grants-and-scholarships/teach-scholarships/))

[Dual Training Grant, Minnesota
Office of Higher Education](https://ohe.mn.gov/competitive-grants/dual-training-grant)



([ohe.mn.gov/competitive-
grants/dual-training-grant](https://ohe.mn.gov/competitive-grants/dual-training-grant))

[Minnesota Dual-Training
Pipeline](https://dli.mn.gov/pipeline)



(dli.mn.gov/pipeline)