



The Child Care Career & Professional Development Fund, a joint scholarship program offered at Hagerstown Community College in conjunction with The Maryland State Department of Education, accepts new applicants each FALL semester. The deadline to apply each year **is March 1st** to gain admittance to the program the following FALL semester.

All tuition/fees and books associated with the Early Childhood coursework is covered under funding. The Fund does not reimburse participants. Funds are paid directly to the college/university. MSDE will notify each applicant and college/university of Fund approval by the end of April.

In order to be eligible you must be currently working in a childcare setting, licensed by the State of Maryland, have one year of experience, be participating in the Maryland Childcare Credential Program, and committed to maintaining employment while receiving funding.

In order to maintain eligibility, you must complete at least 2 courses (six credits) per year towards an associate's degree in Early Childhood at HCC, as well as maintain a minimum of a 2.0 GPA. You must complete and submit a renewal application by June 30th each year. **There is a service payback required upon completion of degree or withdrawal of program.**

This program is ideal for those of you who have wanted to obtain or finish an associate's degree in Early Childhood Education, but haven't been able to, secondary to the extra expense!

If you are interested in applying for the Fund, you must first contact the participating educational institution of your choice (Hagerstown Community College).

Submit a completed application with required documentation

- Experience – at least one year of child care experience – letter from current employer; current family child care license
- Participation in the Maryland Child Care Credential Program – copy of current credential certificate
- Letter of acceptance from a participating college including declared major
- Statement of college costs associated with enrollment (tuition, fees, & books)
- Professional Development Plan – listing of courses and timeline required to complete degree

Contact: Alison Hess, Project Manager @ 240-500-2604 or amhess@hagerstowncc.edu for more information.