# EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIPS AND INCENTIVES PROGRAM

## EARLY CHILDHOOD SCHOLARSHIPS AND INCENTIVES NOW AVAILABLE

The Victorian Government is rolling out subsidised kindergarten programs for all three-year-olds, and investing in scholarships and incentives to deliver this commitment.

Early childhood scholarships are being funded at a higher rate than ever before, and incentives are available for teachers moving to the first roll-out locations for kindergarten for three-year-olds.

Whether you’re choosing your career, upskilling as an educator, or already studying a teaching qualification, there has never been a better time to consider teaching our youngest Victorians.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER INCENTIVES

There is up to $9,000 available for early childhood teachers to relocate and teach in a location where kindergarten programs for three-year-olds are rolling out in 2020:

* Buloke Shire
* Hindmarsh Shire
* Northern Grampians Shire
* South Gippsland Shire
* Strathbogie Shire
* Yarriambiack Shire.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

There are two scholarship options available:

* Early childhood scholarships to become a teacher by studying a degree or postgraduate qualification
* Early childhood Aboriginal pathway scholarships to become an educator or teacher in early childhood.

## HOW MUCH IS THE FUNDING?

### Early childhood scholarships to become a teacher

People receive up to:

* $25,000 towards an approved undergraduate qualification
* $12,000 towards an approved graduate diploma qualification
* $18,000 towards an approved master’s qualification.

### Early childhood Aboriginal pathway scholarships

Aboriginal people receive up to:

* $2,500 towards an approved early childhood Certificate III qualification
* $5,000 towards an approved early childhood Diploma qualification
* $34,000 towards an approved undergraduate qualification
* $16,000 towards an approved graduate diploma qualification
* $24,000 towards an approved master’s qualification.

## HOW CAN THE SCHOLARSHIP OR INCENTIVE FUNDING BE USED?

Scholarship funding may be used for:

* course fees
* study related expenses.

Funding is also available to support working in early childhood after graduation.

## HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

Scholarships and incentives are paid according to milestone achievements.

For scholarships:

* **Study milestones** such as proof of confirmed enrolment into the course and successful course completion
* **Employment milestones** such as proof of employment and completing a specified period of employment.

To receive the employment milestone payments, graduate teachers are required to work in a Victorian approved early childhood centre-based service(s) for up to three years. Those graduating from the Certificate III or Diploma are required to work in the Victorian early childhood sector for one year. This includes Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation run early childhood services.

Recipients who do not meet the study requirements may be required to repay scholarship funding.

Early Childhood Teacher Incentives are paid according to employment milestones, including proof of relevant employment.

The Early Childhood Scholarships and Incentives Program is administered by the Victorian branch of Early Childhood Australia on behalf of the Department of Education and Training.

## HOW TO APPLY

People of all backgrounds are encouraged to submit an application. You can do so via the Department’s website.

Apply via [www.education.vic.gov.au](file:///C%3A/Users/09688001/Desktop/3YO%20Kinder/templates/www.education.vic.gov.au) and search for **Early Childhood Scholarships** **and Incentives**.

## ELIGIBILITY

Scholarships are available to Australian citizens, New Zealand citizens or holders of a permanent visa who meet the entry requirements for the course provider.

Scholarships are not available to learners being supported to study through the Free TAFE initiative.

## CONTACT DETAILS

For more information search for **Early Childhood Scholarships and Incentives** on the Department’s website at: [www.education.vic.gov.au](http://www.education.vic.gov.au)

You may also email early.years.workforce@edumail.vic.gov.au or phone on 1300 651 662