

Iowa AEYC

Leadership Fellowship



Begin your future today!



The Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children is dedicated to the development of leadership within our field. The Association will award two Leadership Fellowships to early childhood educators that are currently working in the early childhood field in Iowa. These scholarships will enable the successful participants to develop their leadership skills through attendance at state or national professional development opportunities, and in turn they will be expected to provide leadership to the early childhood field in our state.



Rationale

As we recognize the need for leadership development in early childhood education, the Iowa AEYC Governing Board is recommending that up to two individuals be selected each year to receive support in growing the next generation of leaders for our state and our Association. Our expectation is that in investing in one or two individuals, we not only support their own development, but also create mentors who will inspire others to greater levels of involvement.

Accepted projects could support the development of one's knowledge and skills as an early childhood trainer or consultant, as a non-profit leader and board member, as an advocate, in system-building, in current trends and research, in program management,

as an expert in play, NAEYC accreditation, or Developmentally Appropriate Practices, or another project of one's own design.

Our expectation is that a typical use of these funds would be to support the individual in attaining post-graduate level education (tuition and books) or in attending one or more national conferences such as NAEYC's Annual Conference, the NAEYC Professional Development Institute, or other opportunities for professional growth (covering registration and travel costs). The expectation is that the selected individuals' employer will allow flexibility in work scheduling (without penalty or requiring use of vacation time) to attend these events.

Eligibility

The applicant must have a BA/BS or a graduate degree in Early Childhood or in a closely related field. The applicant must be a member (or willing to join) Iowa AEYC and must be currently working in Iowa. Evidence of early childhood involvement at the state or local level is required. While current and past Governing Board members and local Chapter leadership are encouraged to apply, paid employees of Iowa AEYC are not eligible.



Benefits/Expectations

As an added benefit, Iowa AEYC will provide free registration (but not travel expenses unless built into the project budget) for selected individuals for the 2011 Iowa AEYC fall conference and the 2012 Spring Leadership Institute. Award winners will be expected to attend a minimum of one Saturday Iowa AEYC Governing Board meeting during the award year, providing a presentation to the Board on his/her experiences. In addition, award winners will be expected to write at least one article for the Iowa AEYC quarterly newsletter, and present a workshop at the 2012 Iowa AEYC Fall Conference on a topic related to their own developing expertise.

Funding

Applications may request up to \$4,000 for the proposed project. Funds will be expended between October 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012. Funding is contingent upon availability of funds at the Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children.



Instructions

- Applications must be received by September 1, 2011.
- Funding awards will be made by October 1, 2011.
- Applications may be emailed, mailed or hand delivered.

No faxed applications will be accepted.

Submit one original, signed proposal to:

Iowa Association for the
Education of Young Children
5525 Meredith Drive Suite F
Des Moines, Iowa 50310

*For more information
call (515) 331-8000,
extension 11.*



Application Content

The application should include the following items:

1. Cover letter that includes all relevant contact information, why you are interested, and a brief, concise summary of your proposed project.
2. Proposal (no more than two(2) one-side, single-spaced pages) that includes the following:
 - Project goals and objectives
 - Describe your proposed project in detail and show how it will enhance your leadership skills and how this will support the early childhood community, including how you plan to meet the requirements of the project.
 - Describe your long term career goals and objectives.
 - Provide a time-line for the project
3. Detailed budget for your project.
4. Your education qualifications, and work experience, and past involvement in the field. Include a leadership self-assessment, addressing your own strengths in areas such as facilitation and strategic planning (no more than one(1) one-sided, single-spaced pages).
5. Appendices (include the following as attachments):
 - Certified copy of educational certificate (degree, teacher license, etc.).
 - Employment verification
 - 3 Letters of recommendation. One should be from your current employer and must state support of your application and agree to flexibility for meeting project requirements.

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www.iowaaeyc.org
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FAX 515-331-8995