



T.E.A.C.H. News

for participants and their programs

Tax Time is Here

—From Your Program Manager—

Very often, T.E.A.C.H. participants have questions about what parts of their scholarship benefits are taxable and which might be considered business or education deductions. WE ARE NOT TAX EXPERTS. We definitely suggest that you consult a tax advisor, especially if you provide child care in your home as a business.

But here are a few things that you might use as guidelines:

- Compensation bonuses provided by T.E.A.C.H. or your employer are taxable income. More than likely, your employer withheld taxes already from any bonuses you have received, but we do not. Include bonuses from T.E.A.C.H. as income.
- Travel/Internet stipends of \$100 for each semester that you are enrolled in courses are taxable income. You can keep track of your mileage to and from classes and consider it a deduction – consult with your tax advisor.
- Child development home provider release time payments are also considered income. We are paying you for your time in your classes. If you hire a substitute for your family child care business to attend classes or study, be sure to consider this a business expense.
- Tuition and book reimbursements, and reimbursements to centers for release time, are not considered income, as they are reimbursements for documented expenses.

If we sent you more than \$600 in T.E.A.C.H. benefits in 2009 in those categories that are considered income, you have received a 1099 form from us. We also sent copies of these to the IRS. However, if you received less than \$600, you should still consider the money income, and file accordingly.

Sometimes you'll call and say that you didn't actually receive the amount indicated on your 1099. Don't forget, before we send you any reimbursements we deduct the amount you owe us for your share of tuition. This may reduce the size of your reimbursement each semester, but does not mean that you did not receive those funds as income.

After you complete and submit your taxes for 2009, we ask that you immediately follow-up with us in two ways:

- Child development home providers – please send us a copy of the first page of your schedule C, which allows us to calculate your per-hour wage for the year, taking into consideration your business expenses. We do not need (nor want) your complete tax return.
- After completing your taxes for 2009, it's time to re-apply through FAFSA for federal financial aid (Pell grants) for the next school year. Once you receive your determination letter and financial aid eligibility, please send a copy of this on to your counselor as well. Remember, we do not require that you are eligible for federal financial aid, just that you have applied. And we NEVER recommend that you accept the loans you may be offered, as we do not help you re-pay any loan debt.

Questions? Let us know and we'll help as best we can, and please continue to share this information with your tax advisor.

Let's hope winter will soon be over! Stay safe, stay warm.

Thanks for all you do,

Barb

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"Education for Iowa's Child Care Workforce"

Other Congratulations

Congratulations to **Apple Tree Learning Center** in **Johnston** for becoming accredited through the **National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)**.

Congratulations to **Lorraine Murray**, Des Moines for receiving her **Certificate of Accreditation for Family Child Care** from the **National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)**.

Congratulations to **Anastasia Payton** of Johnston for receiving a **2010 Terri Lynne Lokoff/TYLENOL® National Child Care Teacher Award™**.

Congratulations to **Kristy Paterno** who received **The Early Education Professional of the Year Award**.

Congratulations to **Jennifer Russell** who is the proud parent of a baby boy named **Nolan Louis Russell**, born November 12, 2009. He weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Please let us know of your honors and celebrations before April 30 2010 for inclusion in our spring newsletter.

Congratulations!

CDA Credentials: many of our participants received their CDA credentials in the past few months. Congratulations!

Elaine Alberding — Muscatine
Cori Beaty-Wilson — West Des Moines
Erin Bradley — Des Moines
Lacey Brommel — Des Moines
Wilma Brown — Des Moines
Kathy Busick — Pleasantville
Uniz Ceballos — Des Moines
Jodi Christof — Miles
Megan Churchill — Des Moines
Leslie Couture — Des Moines
Amanda Crooks — Bernard
Patricia Danielson — Norwalk
Carrie Devenney — Dubuque
Tracy Edminster — Dubuque
Teresa Gehrels — Johnston
Kristina Gerke — Des Moines
Jauramenda Giles — Adel
Jenny Gonzales — Muscatine
Meribeth Green — Burlington
Christine Hamor — Cedar Rapids
Tanya Hehr — Altoona
Amanda Ingwersen — Des Moines
Sara Isaacson — Pleasant Hill
Elizabeth Jackson — Cedar Rapids
Penny Jargo — Bryant
Mary Jensen-Jackson — Sioux City
Jennifer Junko — Des Moines
Mindi Kelso — Newton



Karianne Kennedy — Newton
Joyce Kramer — West Des Moines
LaWanda LeMaster — Des Moines
Nancy Meyer — Knoxville
Jane Meythaler — Windsor Heights
Tami Montgomery — Knoxville
Kathleen Mullins — Des Moines
Cindi Onken — Glidden
Penelope Osborne — Urbandale
Dawn Pata — Cedar Rapids
Sara Patterson — Runnells
Debra Phillips — Des Moines
Wilma Pillot — Ames
Rhonda Reynoldson — Madrid
Denese Robbins — Pleasantville
Ivy Rostenbach — Davenport
Carol Rupp — Johnston
Gin Simpson — Cumming
Keri Stuart — Ackworth
Bonni Teegarden — Pleasantville
Margie Tibben — Johnston
Katie Tibbles — Atlantic
Kristine Turner — Dubuque
Josie Weier — Sioux Rapids
Jenny Wells — Newton
Kathryn Wurtz — Ankeny
Sharon Young — Milo

Quality Rating System: the following T.E.A.C.H. participants and sponsoring programs have received their QRS rating recently. Congratulations!



Debra Buffington — Forest City



Elizabeth Clancy — Waterloo
Denise Jenkins — Oakland
Candace Johnson — Red Oak
Oakridge Early Enrichment Child Care Center — Des Moines
Pauline Plants — Brooklyn
Kathryn Schaeffer — Marshalltown



Diana Seifert — Oakland
Trinity Preschool — Creston

College Honors: the following T.E.A.C.H. participants received college honors recently. Congratulations!



Early Childhood Endorsements:

Annie Bach — Endorsement # 103, Upper Iowa University, Fall 2009

Connie Keller — Endorsement # 100, University of Northern Iowa, Summer 2009

Graduates:

Tracy Benoit-Ostendorf — AA — Des Moines Area Community College — August 2008

Lori Gardea— AS — Iowa Valley Community College — December 2009

Angela Robinson — AAS — Hawkeye Community College — December 2009

President's List:

Dusty Clements — Des Moines Area Community College

Lori Parsons — Des Moines Area Community College

Lacey Brommel — Des Moines Area Community College

Dean's List:

Kristy Paterno — Des Moines Area Community College

Remember Your Commitment

When you sign a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship contract, you are committing to the following:

- Successfully completing a minimum of nine college credits within the 12-month contract
- Remaining employed in your CURRENT setting during the contract year, and an additional 12 months after your last contract ends. (You cannot switch from a family child care home provider to a sponsoring program or vice versa, nor can you switch from one sponsoring program to another)
- Working at least the same minimum number of hours during the contract and commitment years

If you leave your current program by choice, before the contract AND commitment year are completed, T.E.A.C.H. will bill you for the cost of any contract years for which the commitment has not been completed. This bill will reflect not only what we paid to you, but also what we paid to the college and your program on your behalf. This often is as much as \$1000, up to \$5000. Your sponsoring program may expect you to reimburse them some additional funds, but this is not part of the regular T.E.A.C.H. contract.

Commitment is as important to T.E.A.C.H. as education and compensation. Think carefully about the commitment as you sign each renewal contract.

(See the **Participant Procedures Handbook** or contact your counselor for more details.)

Did you know?

- We are encouraging all programs with T.E.A.C.H. participants to take part in Iowa's Quality Rating System and to achieve a level two or higher. Please fax or mail us a copy of your QRS certificate whenever you receive a new or renewed rating.
- T.E.A.C.H. cannot reimburse you for the sales tax that you pay for your books. We **will** reimburse shipping costs if you purchase your books online.
- Don't forget that the **T.E.A.C.H. Participant Procedures Manual** is updated regularly and is available on our website at www.iowaaec.org. Please review it regularly. Questions? Call your counselor. If you have not yet signed the page indicating you have read and agreed to the policies, we cannot reimburse you for your spring semester costs.

Meet a T.E.A.C.H. Participant



Anastasia Payton — Anastasia learned at a young age that teaching was her calling. She attended Iowa State University and received her Elementary Education degree in 2001. She has taught PreK for Apple Tree Children’s Centers in Johnston for the past four years. Anastasia truly enjoys teaching in the early childhood education field. She wants to be able to participate as a licensed teacher in the Universal PreK and grant programs, so she has returned to Upper Iowa University to add the early childhood endorsement to her degree. She has found much success and fulfillment in her career as a teacher of young children. She believes her student’s success and life-long learning begins with her, and it is a job she takes very seriously and strives to accomplish the highest standards.

She was the only teacher in Iowa this year to receive the Terri Lynne Lokoff/
TYLENOL® National Child Care Teacher

Award™ . She will be traveling to Pennsylvania in April to accept this award. A parent of a child in her classroom said in her nomination letter for Anastasia, “Anastasia is an exceptional teacher...She is able to analyze each child’s needs and learning styles and introduce basic academic concepts in a manner in which motivates each child to learn.”

Anastasia has three children, T.J., Corey, and Paige, and one granddaughter, Haidyn. She plans to achieve a master’s degree in early childhood education. She says that without the T.E.A.C.H. program, she would never have been able to return to college to add an early childhood endorsement. She has one child in college and one in high school, so funds are limited. T.E.A.C.H. has also allowed her to receive paid time off, so she says this has affected her ability to maintain her 4.0 GPA at Upper Iowa.

“Anastasia is an exceptional teacher ... She is able to analyze each child’s needs and learning styles and introduce basic academic concepts in a manner in which motivates each child to learn.”

—Terri Lynne Lokoff/TYLENOL® National Child Care Teacher Award™ nomination letter—

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA

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T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® IOWA is a licensed program of Child Care Services Association.