

# Early Childhood Scholarship

- From EEC and the Massachusetts Office of Student Financial Assistance (OSFA)
- Allows early educators to take college courses at many Massachusetts colleges and universities for Associate or Bachelor's degrees
- The scholarship is different from the R3P

# Early Childhood Scholarship

- Application released by EEC in early April
- First come – first served
- Be ready! The funding goes very quickly!
- Recipients can usually take 2 free college courses each semester!

# Early Childhood Scholarship Eligibility

- You must:
  - live in Massachusetts
  - work in an EEC licensed or exempt program
  - be a US citizen or eligible non-citizen
  - not already have a bachelor's degree in any field
  - not have defaulted on a student loan
  - be enrolled (matriculated) in an eligible IHE
  - complete the FAFSA

# Two things to do NOW to prepare:

## #1.) **Matriculate!**

You need to be officially accepted into an early childhood or related degree field at a participating college. This generally means that you complete an application, supply a copy of your high school diploma or GED and pay a fee if applicable. Most community colleges and state colleges have no or low application fees.

# Early Childhood Scholarship

## #2.) Complete the FAFSA

You must complete the federal financial aid online form. You do not have to be eligible for financial aid, but you must complete the form:

[www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)

Be sure to electronically sign the form and submit it when completed.

# Be ready when the application posts on or around April 1st!

- Complete your FAFSA
- Matriculate at a participating college
- Watch for the application link to open  
EEC website ([www.mass.gov/eec](http://www.mass.gov/eec)),  
R3P website ([r3p.northshore.edu](http://r3p.northshore.edu)),  
Facebook (Region 3 Partnership) and/or  
Twitter (@region3p)