



SCDSS Early Childhood Leadership Scholarships
*Contingent on approval of a contractual agreement
 by USC and DSS to be finalized by May 15, 2009*

We are in the process of planning for a 2nd cohort of students to participate in courses that can be applied to the M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education at the University of South Carolina through the support of the South Carolina’s Department of Social Services. The purpose of this initiative is to develop the next generation of South Carolina’s early care and education leaders. Scholarship recipients will be expected to use course assignments and experiences to develop their leadership skills and, as graduates, to assume leadership roles in the state’s early childhood community.

These scholarships will provide recipients an opportunity to work toward the 36-credit-hour M.Ed. degree in Early Childhood Education at the University of South Carolina. Students who are accepted for this scholarship will make a commitment to fully participate in the cohort supported by SC DSS in taking coursework toward this degree. At a minimum, cohort courses will be offered in the fall and spring terms. Most required core courses will meet on the USC Columbia campus one night a week from 4:30-7:15pm. The Early Childhood M.Ed. program of studies can be found at <http://www.ed.sc.edu/ite/ite/ECMEd.pdf>.

Potential scholarship recipients will be notified by August 1, 2009. At that time they should begin the process of applying to the Graduate School and the Early Childhood M.Ed. program. Applicants must be FULLY ACCEPTED into the Graduate School and the M.Ed. in Early Childhood program by December 15, 2009 so that they will be ready to begin coursework during the Spring 2010 semester.

Admission to the Graduate School at the University of South Carolina. Admission is based on the applicant’s total professional profile that includes an Application to Graduate School, 2 recommendations, transcripts of previous post secondary studies, teacher certification (where applicable), and an acceptable score on the Millers Analogies Test or the Graduate Record Examination. The application to USC’s Graduate School can be found at <https://web.csd.sc.edu/app/grad/>. Scholarship recipients must be eligible for in-state tuition and must meet all criteria for admission to the Early Childhood M.Ed. offered by the University of South Carolina’s College of Education and its Department of Instruction and Teacher Education. ***This degree does NOT qualify graduates for initial South Carolina Early Childhood teacher certification.***

TENATIVE M.Ed. Sequence of Courses

Spring 2010	EDEC 750 – Play
Summer 2010	1 Related Study Course*
Fall 2010	EDEC 740 – Child Development
Spring 2011	EDEC 608 – Family Relations
Summer 2011	1 Related Study Course*
Fall 2011	EDEC 744 – Lang. Acquisition
Spring 2012	EDEC 742 – Curriculum
Summer 2012	Diversity requirement (EDTE 779 or XXX)
Fall 2012	EDEC 794 – Leadership & Advocacy
Spring 2013	EDEC 797 - Capstone Course

M.Ed. programs of study require 36 hours (12 courses) with at least 21 hours of courses at the 700 level or above **Related Study Courses***

These include PITC and other summer offerings. Courses you have already taken may apply. Students may be responsible for the cost of meeting the Technology (EDEC 795, EDTE 731 or equivalent) and Research (EDRM 700, EDRM 720 or equivalent) requirements. Acceptable courses are available on campuses throughout South Carolina. Existing agreements establish the equivalency of many offerings and transfer toward the USC Masters degree can be easily arranged.

SCDSS Early Childhood Leadership Scholarship Application

Name	
Social Security Number (last 4 digits)	XXX – XX -
Home Address	
	Street
	City State Zip
Work Address	
	Street
	City State Zip
Phone Numbers	Home () Work ()
	Cell () Fax ()
E-mail (write VERY clearly)	Can we count on reaching you by e-mail? YES NO
Employer	
Current job title or position	
Highest degree earned & degree-granting institution (i.e. BA in Early Childhood Ed from USC)	

This application is intended to give you an opportunity to demonstrate how your participation in this scholarship program will benefit you and the young children of South Carolina. Provide a comprehensive answer each of these questions. *Word-processed applications are strongly preferred. Attach additional pages as needed.*

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

- 1) Describe your current job responsibilities and what your work has lead you to believe are the greatest needs in your community relating to early care and education.
- 2) How do you think the knowledge and skills you will acquire in the courses that lead to the M.Ed. in Early Childhood might prepare you for assuming a leadership role in your community/ agency?
- 3) What do you hope to achieve professionally in the next 5 years?

Statement of Commitment

If awarded this scholarship I commit to fully participating in the cohort courses supported by SC DSS leading to completion of the M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education.

I am aware that the SC DSS scholarship will cover the cost of in-state tuition for cohort courses. I understand that I will be responsible for application fees, required books, materials, and other fees beyond regular in-state course tuition.

I agree that if given this opportunity I will enhance my knowledge and skills in early care and education and will to continue to work in the early childhood education field to serve South Carolina's young children and their families for at least three years after completion of the M.Ed. in Early Childhood Education or all program courses.

Applicant Signature

Date

I am aware of _____'s application and will support her/him in this educational endeavor which may require time away from work responsibilities.

Signature of Supervisor/Employer
(If applicable)

Date

Mail this application to Nancy Freeman at the address below by June 15, 2009 for full consideration. Applications received after that date will be considered on a space available basis

Dr. Nancy Freeman
USC CDRC
1530 Wheat Street
Columbia, SC 29201

If you have questions contact

Dr. Nancy Freeman
nfreeman@sc.edu
(803) 777-2470