

Quality First: Early Years Scholarship Application Guideline

Department of Education and Training

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1. Overview

The Department of Education and Training (the department) seeks to grow a skilled, agile, and capable workforce to meet business and community needs now and for future demand.

To support this, the Quality First: Early Childhood Scholarships (the scholarships) offers up to 25 annual scholarships, each valued at \$5,000 to support individuals undertaking study in early childhood education at an approved training provider in the Northern Territory.

2. Key dates

Table 1 – Key scholarship dates

Milestone	Date
Applications open	Mid-July
Applications close	Mid-August
Applications assessed by panel	End of August
Applicants advised of outcome	Mid- September

3. Eligibility criteria

To be eligible, the applicant:

- Must be enrolled in a relevant qualification (refer to 3.1. Relevant qualification) with an approved training provider (refer to 3.2 approved training provider)
- Must be a resident of the Northern Territory
- Must be an Australian or New Zealand citizen, or holder of an Australian permanent resident visa or permanent humanitarian visa. Temporary visa holders are eligible to apply if they are currently working in the early childhood education and care sector. This requirement can be satisfied by attaching a letter of employment or a recent payslip to the application.
- Must not receive a scholarship, bursary, stipend or funding from another source, excluding:
 - Australian Government Youth Allowance, Austudy and ABSTUDY
 - One-off scholarships paid in one year or less
 - Access and equity grants
 - Subsidies and grants not paid to you directly, such as accommodation scholarships or textbook bursary.

Applications for full- or part-time study will be considered.

3.1. Relevant qualification

To be eligible, the applicant must be enrolled in one of the following qualifications:

- Bachelor-level early childhood teaching qualification
- Diploma of Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC)

- Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care.

3.2. Approved training provider

To be eligible, the applicant must be enrolled in a relevant qualification at an approved training provider in the Northern Territory.

An approved training provider is a registered organisation on the [National Training Register](#) and offers the relevant qualification in the Northern Territory. As of 30 June 2026, this includes:

- Alana Kaye Group Pty Ltd
- Bachelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education
- Dovaston Consulting Group Pty Ltd
- One Tree Community Services Inc
- Charles Darwin University
- Saltbush Social Enterprises Ltd
- CENTVET
- Karen Sheldon Group Pty Ltd
- Collaboraton Learning Pty Ltd
- Top End Group Training Pty Ltd
- Institute of Training and Further Education Pty Ltd
- Brainwave Learning Centre Pty Ltd
- Australian City International College Pty Ltd

4. How to apply

To apply for a Quality First: Early Childhood Scholarship, follow these steps:

1. Read over the scholarship application guidelines to confirm you are eligible.
2. Check you have all application requirements, as outlined in the below table.
3. Register with [GrantsNT](#).
4. Fill in the scholarship application form through [GrantsNT](#) during the application period (search “Early Years”).

5. Application requirements

Application requirements	
Documents	Short summary, including:
☐ Confirmation of NT residency (e.g. photo ID, utility bill) ☐ Confirmation of enrolment in relevant qualification with approved training provider ☐ Confirmation of Australian or New Zealand citizenship, evidence of permanent residency or permanent humanitarian visa	☐ Your background ☐ Why you are applying for the scholarship ☐ Future employment goals ☐ Your commitment to the Northern Territory ☐ Your intentions to build a career in early childhood education

6. Assessment process

- A confirmation email will be sent on receipt of applications. If further information is required to progress the application, recipients will be contacted via email.
- A panel is formed to assess scholarship applications and award based on the strength of responses to the questions.
- Applicants who meet all eligibility criteria will be given priority, however, the panel reserves the right to award scholarships to applicants who do not meet all eligibility criteria but have demonstrated merit commensurate with the program's intent.

7. Notification of outcome

- Applicants will be notified on the outcome of their application via email.
- Successful applicants will be required to sign a grant agreement, talent release form and vendor creation application, which allows the Northern Territory Government to transfer funds.

8. Contact

For more information, contact the Scholarship Administrator:

Ph. 08 8901 1350

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Acronyms	Full form
NT	Northern Territory

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