



## Saint Paul Early Childhood Scholarship Program

The Saint Paul Early Childhood Scholarship Program is a 4-year pilot proposed by the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, funded by the Minnesota Early Learning Foundation, and coordinated by City of Saint Paul Mayor Chris Coleman’s office. The scholarship program provides families with information and resources to help them choose, pay for, and stay in high-quality early care and education programs. In turn, providers can use scholarship resources to increase and sustain quality programming.

### What do families receive?

- Scholarships to use to attend programs that receive high Parent Aware ratings
- Home-based Parent Mentoring

### How does my program benefit?

1) *Financial benefit* – If a family chooses to send their child to your program, your program will receive the scholarship money. It will be paid in the following amounts:

Hours per Week	Annual	4-week Reimbursement*
12 to 14	\$7,280	\$560
15 to 17	\$8,320	\$640
35 hours center-based	\$13,000	\$1,000
35 hours family-based	\$9,360	\$720

\*Every 4 weeks a program receives the same tuition that they charge for private pay minus any CCAP payments the program has received for the scholarship child. Therefore, 4-week reimbursement rates will vary. The difference between the scholarship amount and the tuition payment will be included in a Quality Grant paid out every 12 weeks based on the aggregate number of scholarship children in the program.

2) *Continuity* – Family eligibility is assessed once prior to entry into the program. If the family’s income or address changes, they still remain in the program.<sup>1</sup>

### How does my program get signed-up?

**Step 1:** Enroll in Parent Aware to get your program rated. To access a scholarship, the program must have a Parent Aware\* rating of 3 or 4.

**Step 2:** Sign an agreement with Resources for Child Caring to set up the scholarship payments.

**Step 3:** Scholarship families enroll their children in your program as early as January, 2008.

<sup>1</sup> If a child moves to a different program, the scholarship follows the child. However, to support program sustainability, a 2-week advance is provided when a child enrolls. If families move out of Districts 6 & 7, they remain eligible as long as they live in Ramsey or Hennepin County.

### **Which families can receive a scholarship?**

Families who:

- live in the North End or Frogtown neighborhoods (City Planning Districts 6 & 7),  
Note: Scholarships can be used in any program in Saint Paul that receives a 3 or 4 Parent Aware rating or accredited/Parent Aware program in the 7-county metro.
- have an annual income at or below 185% of poverty, and
- have a 3-year-old child on September 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **If a child is already in my program, can they get a scholarship?**

Yes. As long as the family meets the eligibility requirements and your program receives a 3 or 4 Parent Aware rating, the child can use the scholarship.

### **Who to contact if you have questions about...**

General project information:

Lisa Cariveau, City of Saint Paul  
Office of Mayor Christopher B. Coleman  
651-266-7023  
[lisa.cariveau@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:lisa.cariveau@ci.stpaul.mn.us)

\*Parent Aware:

Valerie Peterson - Minnesota Child Care Resource and Referral Network  
651-290-9704 Extension 107  
[valeriep@mnchildcare.org](mailto:valeriep@mnchildcare.org) or visit [www.parentawareratings.org](http://www.parentawareratings.org)

Scholarship payment/family enrollment:

Carolyn Veese-Egbide - Resources for Child Caring  
651-641-6647  
[cegbide@resourcesforchildcare.org](mailto:cegbide@resourcesforchildcare.org)

*“If properly funded and managed, investments in early childhood development yield an extraordinary return, far exceeding the return on most investments, private or public.”*

*- Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis*