



Congratulations BA Graduates!

Britney Baker
Kimberly Droppo
Sharon Enright
Shelbie Frounfelter
Anne George
Hailey McCarthy
Bertha Ramirez
Valdovinos
Maria de Jesus Ramirez
Valdovinos

Montessori Graduate

Elia Martinez Castro

News from Child Care Aware of WA Scholarships

Happy New Year! Warm wishes for a wonderful 2019 from all of us at CCA of WA Scholarships.

We started the new year with the launch of our new website. Everything is easier to find on our new site, plus it's designed to work great on mobile devices. Please make sure to visit the scholarship pages so you'll know where to find the forms you need. <https://childcareawarewa.org/providers/>

By now you have probably heard about the great changes to our scholarships program allowing us to serve more child care and early learning professionals. Did you know we can now also support scholars who are within 30 credits of their associates degree, if they have acceptance or conditional acceptance into a BA(S) program? We can!

The 2019 Washington State Legislative Session has begun and this means **now is the time to advocate** for high-quality child care and early learning programs in our state, and for the dedicated early childhood educators who provide the care that thousands of Washington families rely on every day. Visit our online advocacy Action Center and see how easy it is to let your elected representatives know you support investment in child care, Early Achievers and our state child care subsidy program, Working Connections Child Care. <https://childcareawarewa.org/advocacy/take-action/>



CCA of WA Scholarships Staff:
Christine Zumwalt, Program Coordinator
Ivonne Pereira, Program Coordinator
Meka Riggins, Senior Program Manager,
Scholarships & Professional Development

For more information, please visit us online: <https://childcareawarewa.org/providers/#layout-accordion-3>.

Scholar Spotlight — Savanna Anderson, Lead Teacher, Kat's Early Learning, Spokane

When it comes to furthering education, Savanna doesn't quit. Her commitment extends from her own life as a long-time scholar earning her CDA, AAS-T degree and soon her BA degree, to the lives of the children she cares for.

One of the things she likes best about her studies at Eastern Washington University is how she can apply coursework in her classroom. "I am able to learn new ways to teach to each individual child and be more flexible so each child can get the love and support they need to be successful in my classroom."

Her advice to other child care professionals considering going back to school? "Do it now, don't wait. You never know what the future holds, so go after your dreams."



Child Care Aware of Washington 2019 Public Policy Agenda

Washington is in the midst of a child care crisis. Why? Child care is expensive and unaffordable for many working families. At the same time, some child care providers cannot afford to stay in business.

High-quality child care and early learning is the best investment the state can make, yet less than one percent of the budget is dedicated to early learning. With smart, strategic investments, Washington can ensure families have access to the child care they need to work, while their children receive the quality early learning they need to be ready for kindergarten.

Affordable, high-quality child care is essential to our state's economy

58% of Young Children Live in Homes Where All Adults Work



Child Care Costs More Than College



Not Enough Child Care Capacity to Meet Our State's Needs



Early Childhood Educators Earn Poverty Wages



90% of Brain Development Happens in the First 5 Years



State Reimbursement Rates Do Not Cover Costs & Reduce Access



Child Care Aware of Washington calls on the 2019 State Legislature to:

- Restore Washington's commitment to programs that provide high-quality child care via Early Achievers
- Increase Working Connections Child Care reimbursement rates and ensure they cover the cost of meeting state standards
- Expand and reform Working Connections Child Care so all families who need child care can access it
- Implement the recommendations of the Department of Children, Youth, and Families Compensation Technical Workgroup
- Make targeted investments for families with unique challenges (families experiencing homelessness; children with special needs; families who use Family Friend & Neighbor child care)



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Winter Reminders:

Book Reimbursement—The deadline to submit book reimbursement requests for winter quarter is February 15th. Please don't forget to send us your request form and receipts so we can help pay for your books and supplies! You can find the form online (link below) and email it to us at scholarships@wa.childcareaware.org

Academic Advising Forms—We require an Academic Advising Form at the beginning of each scholarship contract. This form tells us about your academic plans and must be signed by both the scholar and an academic advisor. This and other scholarship forms can be found online here: <https://childcareawarewa.org/ders/scholarship-forms/>.



WASHINGTON STATE
Department of
Children, Youth, and Families



WASHINGTON
EARLY ACHIEVERS
PREPARING CHILDREN FOR SUCCESS IN SCHOOL

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SCHOLARSHIPS
For early learning professionals

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CCA of WA on Instagram at [wachildcarematters](https://www.instagram.com/wachildcarematters)

CCA of WA on Twitter: [@childcarewa](https://twitter.com/childcarewa)

Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships offers scholarships to early learning professionals to enrich their expertise. Our goal is to advance the early learning field by increasing educational achievement and helping early learning professionals achieve their goals.

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