



## Congratulations BA Graduates!

Kerta Abukar  
Trang Dang  
Brittany Green  
Karima Ramadan  
Cathy Van Riper

## News from Child Care Aware of WA Scholarships

Welcome spring! We are excited to be supporting so many provider scholars who are using skills they learn in class with the young children in their care every day. During this past winter quarter we supported 259 scholars working toward 1,633 credits. We are also excited to support the 42 family child care providers who are working toward their bachelor's degrees.

We have seen an increase in applications recently due to the new Bachelor's of Applied Science (BAS) Degree in Early Childhood Education at the Lake Washington Institute of Technology in Kirkland, and the online BAS in Early Childhood Education at North Seattle College.

We hope to see applications soon for the fall opening of the Early Childhood Education Olympic Program at Western Washington University in Bremerton.

Did you know that Child Care Aware of Washington Scholarships can consider applicants who are within 30 credits of an associates degree in early childhood education if they have been accepted into BA(S) program? We can! Providers are encouraged to apply as soon as possible as funding is limited.

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



CCA of WA Scholarships Staff:  
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Scholarships & Professional Development

## Scholar Spotlight — The McGunagle Family, Kat's Early Learning ECEAP, Spokane



Chandra, William & Kat McGunagle Relationships formed between families and early educators at child care programs can sometimes feel like extended families. At Kat's Early Learning ECEAP in Spokane, child care really is a family endeavor. Two generations work together to provide the young children in their program with the play, fun, friendships and early learning they need, along with the support their families need.

One way all three of them have been able to provide such high-quality care (Kat's is an Early Achievers rated Level 4 program) is all of them have earned degrees in early childhood thanks to scholarships from CCA of WA Scholarships. Chandra, having already earned her associates degree, is now working on her bachelor's at Eastern Washington University.

All three credit their education and Early Achievers with providing them with the skills and resources they need to own and operate their small business while also being lead teachers.

"Early Achievers is a wonderful resource and their support has helped me provide quality learning to the children I work with," said Chandra.

## NAEYC Power to the Profession

Have you heard about the Power to the Profession initiative? It's a nationwide effort to "define the early childhood profession by establishing a unifying framework for career pathways, knowledge and competencies, qualifications, standards and compensation."

The initiative is supported by several early childhood foundations including the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Providers and scholars can join and share in the conversations about the framework for ECE career pathways and establishing comparable compensation based on experience, qualifications and position responsibilities.

Power to the Profession will be successful when "every last early childhood educator is recognized and valued for their tremendous contributions to our world," said Megan Madison, doctoral student at Brandeis University in Waltham, MA.

Learn more at [www.naeyc.org/our-work/initiaves/profession](http://www.naeyc.org/our-work/initiaves/profession).



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### Spring Reminders:

**Financial Aid** – Scholars are encouraged to apply for different forms of financial aid, including the FAFSA. Our scholarships can be used with other forms of financial aid, and should be applied to the scholar’s balance after other grants and scholarships, but before student loans. Scholars who apply for financial aid are required to submit a copy of their financial aid award letter.

**Dropping a course**—Here are some things to know if you’re thinking about dropping a course:

- It is a scholar’s responsibility to adhere to their college’s Drop Course Policy.
- Dropping a course could affect financial aid payments and eligibility.
- Dropping a course after the 100% refund date could result in a scholar owing a balance to CCA of WA or to the college.



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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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