How to Apply for the 2025-26 Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity Scholarship

For priority application consideration, complete and submit all required application forms by **May 19, 2025**. Applications received after May 19, 2025 are considered untimely and will be awarded only if funding is still available after awarding timely eligible applicants.

- 1. Complete the <u>Gateways to Opportunity Registry</u>'s Eligibility Verification Form. Follow these <u>instructions</u> to access the Eligibility Verification Form. If you have prior employment that is not listed on your Eligibility Verification Form, you may request that it be added by completing the <u>Reporting Prior Employment for ECACE Scholarship</u> form.
- 2. Ensure that the college at which you are taking or plan to take courses is an ECACE-participating college. If you would like to talk to someone about available opportunities, complete the ECACE Higher Education Navigator Interest Form and a representative from your local Child Care Resource and Referral Agency will contact you.
- **3.** Complete and submit the <u>ECACE Scholarship Application</u>. You must list your college of choice on your application. If you plan to attend more than one college during the same term, list only your college of record on the ECACE scholarship application.
- **4.** Complete and submit the <u>FAFSA</u> or <u>Alternative Application for Financial Aid</u>. You must also list your college of choice on your FAFSA or Alternative Application; however, if you plan to attend more than one college, list **both** colleges on your FAFSA or Alternative Application.
- **5.** Notify the college(s) you listed on your application materials that you have submitted an ECACE Scholarship application.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU APPLY?

- You will receive a confirmation email once your application is received.
- Application processing takes up to 12 weeks.
- If you need to change your response(s) or update any information after your application has been submitted, contact ISAC directly following the Changes to Application Data instructions. Only one application may be submitted per academic year.
- Once ISAC determines that both the ECACE Scholarship application and the FAFSA
 or Alternative Application have been submitted, you will receive a letter stating that
 your application is considered complete. If your application is incomplete, ISAC will
 notify you on how to fix it. You will receive a letter explaining the reason and how to
 resolve the issue.
- Be sure the financial aid office at your college knows you will be enrolling and that you have submitted an ECACE Scholarship application.